

62. Teachers at any stage shall be entitled to receive certificates from the Department, provided they satisfy the Department that they have received a training or passed examinations equivalent to those required under the following articles.

Note.—In administering this article, it shall be in the power of the Department to hold examinations for the purpose of testing the qualifications of applicants for certificates.

63. A certificate may at any time be suspended, reduced, or cancelled, but in every case the Department shall give the teacher an opportunity of explanation. A provisional certificate of any grade will be cancelled or reduced if three successive reports from the Inspector are unsatisfactory.

64. A pupil-teacher who has passed the final examination specified in Schedule II shall receive a provisional third-grade certificate. After not less than two years' service with credit his certificate shall be made permanent.

Note.—“A year's service with credit” in this and the following articles implies one year's service as a teacher with a favourable report from the Inspector at the end of the year.

65. Any one who, without having served an engagement as a pupil-teacher, has completed his seventeenth year, and has passed the final examination for high schools in Schedule I, may receive a provisional third-grade certificate. After three years' service with credit this certificate shall be made permanent.

66. Any one who has completed his eighteenth year and passed the First Arts Examination may receive a provisional third-grade certificate. After two years' service with credit this provisional certificate shall be made permanent.

67. Any holder of a permanent third-grade certificate who has served with credit for two years under that certificate, and has also passed the First Arts Examination, shall be entitled to a provisional second-grade certificate. After two years' further service with credit, this provisional certificate shall be made permanent.

68. Any graduate who has completed his twenty-second year may receive a provisional second-grade certificate. After two years' service with credit, this certificate shall be made permanent.

69. Any holder of a permanent second-grade certificate, who has served for at least two years with credit under that certificate, and who is also a graduate, may receive a provisional first-grade certificate. After two years' service with credit, this certificate shall be made permanent.

70. It shall be open to the Department in exceptional cases to grant a provisional certificate of the first grade to any graduate who has completed his twenty-fifth year. After two years' service with credit, this certificate shall be made permanent.

Note.—A degree conferred without examination does not qualify the holder for a certificate under articles 68–70.

71. It shall be open to the Department in exceptional cases to grant certificates of the first or second grade to persons not entitled to such certificates under any of the foregoing rules.

72. Any person who, on the 1st April, 1885, was actually employed as the principal teacher of a school recognised by the Department as efficient, and who had been so employed for the three years immediately preceding that date, shall be accepted by the Department as qualified to be the principal teacher of that school, and shall, on application, receive a certificate of the corresponding grade (article 61).

73. Any such person whose period of service as principal teacher, on the 1st April, 1885, was less than three years shall, on application, receive a provisional certificate of the corresponding grade (article 61). After completing the period of three years as principal teacher, and on obtaining a satisfactory report from the Inspector, this certificate shall be made permanent.

74. Other persons who, on the 1st April, 1885, were actually employed as teachers in schools recognised by the Department may, on satisfying the Department of their efficiency as teachers, receive provisional certificates. After two years' service with credit, these certificates shall be made permanent.

Note.—Applications for certificates under articles 72–74 must be made to the Inspector before the 1st April, 1887.

CHAPTER IV.

TRAINING COLLEGES.

Section I.—Preliminary.

75. A training college includes—

- (a) a college for boarding, lodging, and instructing candidates for the office of teacher;
- (b) a practising school, in which such candidates may learn their profession.

76. No grant shall be made to a training college unless the Department is satisfied with the premises, management, and staff.

77. The grant to a practising school shall be made under the conditions specified in Chapter II.

Section II.—Admission to Training Colleges.

78. Candidates for admission to a training college are selected by the authorities of each college on their own responsibility, and are admissible to the college, provided that they produce satisfactory certificates of moral character.

79. No grant will be payable to a training college on account of any student who on admission does not satisfy the following conditions:—

- (a) That he is at least seventeen years of age.
- (b) That the state of his health is satisfactory, and that he is free from any infirmity or bodily defect likely to interfere with the profession of a teacher.
- (c) That he signs a declaration signifying his *bona fide* intention to follow the profession of a teacher.
- (d) That he has passed the final examination for high schools specified in schedule I, or for pupil-teachers in Schedule II.

Section III.—Examinations.

80. Every student admitted to a training college under the conditions specified in article 79 who has been in residence for eight months of the year, and who has spent in that year at least 75 hours under proper supervision in the practising school, shall be presented at the close of the year for examination by the standards fixed for first and second year students respectively in Schedule III.

81. The yearly examinations will be conducted by the Department. After each examination the names of the successful candidates will be arranged in two divisions, the first in order of merit, the second in alphabetical order.

82. The place taken by each student in the examination will be recorded on the certificates granted by the Department under articles 83—86.

83. Any student who has been admitted to a training college after completing his engagement as a pupil-teacher, and who has passed the first year's examination of the college, shall be entitled to receive a permanent third-grade certificate. After passing the second year's examination of the college he shall receive a provisional second-grade certificate.

84. Any student of a training college who, without having completed an engagement as a pupil-teacher, has passed the first year's examination of the college shall be entitled to receive a provisional third-grade certificate. After passing the second year's examination of the college he shall receive a permanent third-grade certificate.

85. After two years' service with credit, the provisional certificates granted under articles 83 and 84 shall be made permanent; and the permanent third-grade certificates granted under the same articles shall be exchanged for provisional certificates of the second grade.

86. Any holder of a provisional second-grade certificate under the preceding article shall, after two years' service with credit under that certificate, receive a permanent certificate of the second grade.

Section IV.—Grants.

87. The managers of a training college shall be entitled to a grant of Rs. 750 for each student passing the annual examination in the first division, and of Rs. 500 for each student passing in the second division.

88. On the recommendation of the Inspector, a grant not exceeding Rs. 100 may be made on account of a student who fails to pass the annual examination; but this grant will not be made more than once for the same student.

89. The managers shall receive monthly a provisional grant of Rs. 35 for each student on the rolls during that month.

90. After the annual examination, the managers shall receive the amounts payable under articles 87 and 88, less the amounts actually paid under article 89. If the amounts paid under article 89 exceed the amounts payable under articles 87 and 88, the excess shall be deducted from the first or (at the discretion of the Department) any subsequent grants payable in the following year under article 89 or be otherwise refunded to the Department.

91. The amounts specified under article 87 will not be payable on account of any student who has resided for less than eight months during the year. Exceptions to this rule may, at the discretion of the Department, be made in special cases, provided that no grant will be payable for any student who has resided for less than six months, or who has spent less than 75 hours under proper supervision in the practising school. In the case of students so accepted, a reduction not exceeding Rs. 200 will be made in the amount of the grant.

CHAPTER V.

BUILDING GRANTS.

92. Grants may be given under this chapter to managers of schools in aid—

- (a) of erecting, enlarging, or furnishing school buildings;
- (b) of executing extensive repairs;
- (c) in special cases, of paying off debts incurred in erecting or enlarging school buildings.

Note.—Expenditure in the purchase of buildings may be treated as expenditure on the erection of buildings.

93. Except in the case provided for in article 92 (c), no grant shall be made in consideration of former expenditure on school buildings.

94. Grants under this chapter shall not ordinarily exceed one-half of the total cost. In places where there is a small or poor European population, the maximum grant shall not exceed two-thirds of the total cost.

95. Before a grant is sanctioned for the erection of school buildings, the Department must be satisfied—

- (a) that the European population of the locality is sufficiently large to render the existence of the school necessary, and to give a reasonable probability of its permanence;
- (b) that the school is suited to the requirements of the locality;
- (c) that the school is likely to be maintained in efficiency;
- (d) that the school will be open to inspection;
- (e) that the site, plans, estimates, and specifications are suited to the school, and the title and trust deeds in due form.

96. The trust-deed must declare the building to be granted in trust for school purposes only. It must also provide for the legal ownership of the premises, for the proper maintenance of the building, and for the inspection and management of the school.

Note.—This article does not preclude the managers from using the building for other purposes when not required for the purposes of the school.

97. No grant is finally sanctioned until a certificate is received from the managers setting forth that the funds in their hands will, when added to the grant, be sufficient to meet all claims and to close the account.

98. Advances may be made from time to time out of the sanctioned grant on receipt of a report from the Public Works Department that the work is proceeding satisfactorily.

99. The grant is not paid in full until—

(a) a report is received from the Public Works Department certifying that the building has been satisfactorily completed; but exceptions may be made to this rule by the Local Government;

(b) the trust-deed is duly registered and a copy lodged with the Department.

100. If any building, towards the erection, purchase, or repair of which a grant has been made by the Government, is subsequently diverted to other than educational purposes, the Government shall have a prior lien upon the building for the recovery of the grant, and a provision to this effect shall invariably be made in the trust-deed or in some other binding document.

101. The trustees must undertake to refund the amount of any grant made for furniture if the school ceases to exist within three years from the date of payment.

102. All applications for grants must be submitted to the Department not later than the 1st of October in any year, if the grant is to be provided for in the budget estimates of the following financial year.

Note.—The execution of Trust-deeds need only be insisted upon in the case of the erection or purchase of buildings; or, in other cases, where the Local Government considers such a document necessary.

CHAPTER VI.

SCHOLARSHIPS.

103. Scholarships are of two grades, primary and middle; the number of each grade will be determined by the Local Government. Both boys and girls are eligible for scholarships, which will in every case be awarded after a competitive examination.

Note.—The nomenclature of the scholarships may be altered by the Local Government.

104. Primary scholarships are tenable for three years in a middle school, or in the middle department of a high school. Middle scholarships are tenable for two years in a high school, or for five years in a technical school. Scholarships are tenable only in schools recognized by the Department as efficient. The value of the scholarships shall be determined by the Local Government.

Note.—If the holder of a middle scholarship enters into an engagement as pupil-teacher within one year after passing the scholarship examination, the scholarship shall be tenable for three years from the date of engagement.

105. Candidates for primary scholarships must be under twelve years of age, and for middle scholarships under 15 years of age, at the date of examination.

106. A fee, to be determined by the Department, shall be charged for admission to the examination for scholarships.

Note.—The Local Government may dispense with the levy of these fees in any class of scholarship examination.

107. The examination for primary and middle scholarships shall comprise the subjects of Standards IV and VII respectively, and shall be conducted by means of printed papers. Marks shall be allotted to the several subjects of examination as follows:—

Primary Scholarships.

English	{ Language and Grammar ...	200	}	250
	{ Dictation ...	50		
Arithmetic	...	...	...	150
Geography	...	...	...	100
Total				500

Middle Scholarships.

English	...	...	...	275
Second Language	...	...	...	175
History and Geography	...	...	...	175
Arithmetic	...	...	...	150
Geometry and Algebra	...	...	...	150
Elementary Science	...	...	...	75
Total				1,000

108. At the discretion of the Local Government the following rules may be applied:—

- (a) Certificates shall be given to all the candidates who pass the examination, whether they obtain scholarships or not. There is no limit of age in the case of candidates for certificates only.
- (b) To pass the examination, a candidate must obtain 25 per cent. of the marks in each of the compulsory subjects—English and Arithmetic,—and 30 per cent. of the aggregate number of marks obtainable. To qualify for a scholarship, a candidate must obtain 33 per cent. in English and Arithmetic, and 45 per cent. of the aggregate.
- (c) The names of those who pass the examination shall be gazetted and shall be arranged in three classes, each in order of merit. Those who obtain 60 per cent. of the aggregate number of marks obtainable shall be placed in the first class; those who obtain 45 per cent., but less than 60 per cent., shall be placed in the second class; those who obtain 30 per cent., but less than 45 per cent., shall be placed in the third class.

109. For the purposes of this chapter, each province shall, if necessary, be divided into circles, and a certain number of scholarships allotted to each circle, to be competed for by candidates from schools situated in that circle. In November of each year (or some other month to be fixed by the Department), the examination shall be held simultaneously at certain centres previously selected. The examination papers shall be the same for all centres.

110. A scholarship may be reduced or withdrawn in cases of misconduct, of continued absence, or of failure to pass by the prescribed standards.

111. A scholarship may be transferred from one school to another with the sanction of the Department.

CHAPTER VII.

REVISION OF THE CODE.

112. The Local Government may, subject to the control of the Governor General in Council, alter the scale of grants and of scholarships, and may, with the previous approval of the Governor General in Council, cancel or modify any articles of this Code, or introduce new articles.

113. The schedules and notes appended to the Code shall have the same effect as the articles of the Code, and shall be subject to the provisions of article 112.

SCHEDULE I. STANDARDS OF EXAMINATION (PRIMARY).

Subjects.	Lower Division.		Upper Division.	
	Standard I.	Standard II.	Standard III.	Standard IV.
ELEMENTARY SUBJECTS.				
(1) Reading* ...	To read a short paragraph from a book not confined to words of one syllable. <i>Accuracy of pronunciation to be considered.</i>	To read a short paragraph from an elementary reading-book.	To read a passage from a more advanced reading-book, or stories from English or Indian history. <i>Spelling to be tested.</i>	To read a short passage of prose or poetry from a more advanced reading-book.
(2) Writing ...	To copy in manuscript characters a line of print; to write to dictation a few common words.	To write a passage of not more than three lines from the same book, slowly read over once and then dictated word by word. <i>Before examination, the passage shall be read over again.</i> Copy-books to be shown.	To write six lines from one of the reading-books of the standard, slowly read over once and then dictated a few words at a time. Copy-books to be shown, with improved writing.	To write eight lines from a reading-book, slowly read over once and then dictated in sections. Copy-books to be shown, with improved writing.
(3) Arithmetic†	Notation and numeration up to 1,000. Simple addition and subtraction of numbers of not more than three figures. In addition, not more than five lines to be given. Multiplication table to 6×12.	Notation and numeration up to 100,000. The four simple rules. Multiplication table to 12×12, and the 16 times table.	The compound rules in English and Indian money.	A.—For boys—Reduction and the compound rules in all weights and measures of common use; G. C. M. and L. C. M.; addition and subtraction of vulgar fractions; simple proportion. B.—For girls—Reduction and the compound rules in all weights and measures of common use; bills of parcels.
CLASS SUBJECTS.				
(4) English ...	To recite 20 lines of easy poetry and to know their meaning.	To recite 20 lines of poetry and to know their meaning. To point out nouns and verbs in the passages read or written.	To recite with intelligence and expression 40 lines of poetry, and to know their meaning. To point out the parts of speech in the passage read or written.	To recite 50 lines of poetry, and to know their meaning. Easy parsing; to show by examples the use of the parts of speech.
(5) Needlework (for girls only)‡	Threading needles; hemming.	Seaming; plain knitting with two needles.	Stitching and sewing on strings; knitting with two needles, plain and purled rows alternately.	Plain darning; herring-boning; knitting with four needles, plain and purl.
(6) Geography	...	To know the points of the compass and the meaning and use of a map. Explanation of simple geographical terms by reference to a map or diagram.	The outlines of the geography of India, with special reference to the province. To draw a ground-plan of the school-room showing the position of the furniture. Shape and size of the earth.	The outlines of the geography of Asia and of the British Isles. To draw a ground-plan of the school compound and the principal objects in it, with its approaches. Diurnal motion of the earth; day and night.

OBJECT LESSONS.

A progressive course of lessons on common objects, such as familiar animals, plants, and substances used in ordinary life.

N.B.—The clauses in italics apply to all succeeding standards.

* Reading with intelligence will be required in all the standards, and increased fluency and expression in successive years. In Standard III and upwards two sets of reading-books should be provided, of which one should be historical or biographical. The Inspector may examine in any of these books, and may test the intelligence of the reading by questions on the meaning of what is read.

† (a) The Inspector may examine scholars in arithmetic in any standard lower than that in which they are presented, and in mental arithmetic suited to their respective standards. The object of the exercise in mental arithmetic is to encourage dexterity and correctness in computation; and to anticipate, by means of rapid and varied oral practice with small numbers, the longer problems which have to be worked out in writing. Such exercises should from the first deal with concrete as well as with abstract numbers.

(b) In those schools in which arithmetic is taught up to the fourth standard in a different order from that here defined, the subjects in the first three standards may, with the previous sanction of the Inspector, be re-arranged accordingly.

‡ No grant will be given for a class-subject in any standard in girls' schools, unless needlework is taken up. In each standard a simple garment must be shown, containing the stitches required in that and lower standards.

SCHEDULE I—continued.
STANDARDS OF EXAMINATION (MIDDLE).

Subjects.	Standard V.	Standard VI.	Standard VII.
ELEMENTARY SUBJECTS.			
(1) Reading	To read a passage from a more advanced book. Allusions to be explained in the case of passages previously read. <i>Reading may be tested by passages from a newspaper, or from a book not comprised in the school course.</i>	To read a passage from a more advanced reading-book. Allusions to be explained in the case of passages previously read.	To read a passage from a modern English poet, and another from a modern English prose-writer.
(2) Writing	To write to dictation a passage of ten lines not previously read in the class. Copy-books to be shown.	To write a short narrative or letter. Copy-books and exercise books to be shown. <i>Spelling, hand-writing, and composition to be considered.</i>	To write a letter or narrative, or a short essay on some subject comprised in the school course for the year. Exercise-books to be shown.
(3) Arithmetic— A.—For boys	Vulgar fractions; proportion; practice; and simple interest. <i>Progressive exercises in mental arithmetic.</i>	Decimal fractions; proportion; interest; square and cubic measures.	Discount; stocks; profit and loss; exchange; square root.
B.—For girls	G. C. M. and L. C. M.; vulgar fractions (simple); proportion (simple). <i>Progressive exercises in mental arithmetic.</i>	Vulgar fractions; proportion; practice; simple interest.	Decimal fractions; interest; square measure.
CLASS SUBJECTS.*			
(4) English	To recite 60 lines of poetry or 30 lines of prose, and to know their meaning. To parse and analyse a simple sentence.	To recite 80 lines of poetry or 40 lines of prose from a standard writer, and to know their meaning. To parse and analyse a short complex sentence, and to know the method of forming English nouns, adjectives, and verbs from each other.	To recite 100 lines from a modern poet or 50 lines from a modern prose-writer, and to know their meaning. Grammar and analysis of sentences. Prefixes and terminations; easy derivations.
(5) Needlework (for girls only).	Gathering; stroking; setting-in; marking on coarse material; knitting socks or stockings; plain darning and mending stockings; patching old garments.	Plaiting; frilling; setting on frills; sewing on buttons and button-holing; knitting a full-sized stocking; improved darning and mending; cutting out plain under-garments.	Ronning tucks; marking on finer materials; knitting a stocking with thickened heels; swiss darning; cutting out any garment which can be made by children at this standard.
(6) Geography (including physical geography).	The outlines of the geography of Europe; special knowledge of the geography of India. To draw outline maps of the British Isles and India. Latitude and longitude; annual motion of the earth; the seasons.	The outlines of the geography of the world; special knowledge of the geography of the British Isles. To draw an outline map of Asia, and, with greater detail, maps of the British Isles and of India. Phases of the moon; tides.	Revision; special knowledge of the geography of the British colonies and dependencies. To draw maps of the great continents. General circumstances which determine climate; wind; rain; dew.
(7) History	The outlines of the history of England from the Norman conquest to Elizabeth.	The outlines of the history of England from James I. to Victoria.	The outlines of the history of England and of India (British period).
(8) Mathematics,†	(1) Algebra; notation, addition, subtraction, multiplication.	(1) Algebra; the first four rules, resolution into factors, G.C.M. and L.C.M., easy fractions. (2) Geometry; Euclid to I-26, with easy deductions.	(1) Algebra, to simple equations involving two unknown quantities. (2) Geometry; Euclid, Book I, with easy deductions.
(9) Elementary science,‡	(a) General comparison of the chief divisions of the animal kingdom; or (b) Gravitation, weight, and specific gravity.	(a) Distribution of animals; the races of mankind; or (b) The common pump, barometer and thermometer; pulleys and levers.	(a) The build of the human body; names, positions, and functions of the organs of alimentation, circulation, and respiration; or (b) Elementary properties of light and heat; construction of the steam-engine.

N.B.—The clauses in italics apply to all succeeding standards.

* No grant will be given for a class subject in any standard in girls' schools, unless needlework is taken up.

† In girls' schools mathematics may be taken up as a special subject. In order to earn a grant for mathematics in Standards VI and VII, scholars must satisfy the Inspector in both algebra and geometry.

‡ Instruction in the science subjects should be given mainly by experiment and illustration. If these subjects are taught to children by definition and verbal description only, such instruction will not be accepted as qualifying for a grant.

SCHEDULE I—concl^d.
STANDARDS OF EXAMINATION (MIDDLE)—concluded.

Subjects.	Standard V.	Standard VI.	Standard VII.
SPECIAL SUBJECTS.			
(10) An Indian vernacular.*	(1) To read and translate into English a passage from the book or portion of the book read during the year. (2) To write the letters of the alphabet and words of one or two syllables. (3) Inflections of nouns and pronouns.	(1) Improved reading and translation into English. Translation into the vernacular of short and easy sentences. (2) To write, from the dictation of the teacher, an easy passage from the book or portion of the book read during the year. (3) Inflections; easy syntax.	(1) To read and translate a passage from a book comprised in the school course. To translate, in writing, a short passage from an easy English reader. (2) To write, from the dictation of the Inspector or teacher, a passage from a book comprised in the school course. (3) Easy grammar.
(11) A European language.	<i>A.—Latin.</i> Grammar to the end of regular verbs. Translation of easy sentences into English. <i>B.—French or German.</i> Grammar to the end of regular verbs. Ten pages of an easy reader. To write from dictation a few common words.	<i>A.—Latin.</i> Irregular verbs and leading rules of syntax; knowledge of a first reading-book; translation of simple English sentences. <i>B.—French or German.</i> Inflections and easy syntax. Improved reading and translation. Dictation.	<i>A.—Latin.</i> Grammar; Caesar de Bello Gallico, Book I, or some other book approved by the Inspector. Somewhat longer sentences to be translated from English. <i>B.—French or German.</i> Grammar; reading and translation of a text-book approved by the Inspector. Translation of easy sentences from English.
(12) Botany†	Characters of the root, stem, leaves and parts of the flower, illustrated by specimens of common flowering plants. The phenomena of the movements of plants by twining, climbing, and catching hold of objects by tendrils or other contrivances.	The phenomena of the ripening of the flower into fruit. The various forms of fruits, and the structure of seeds, <i>e.g.</i> , a bean and a grain of wheat or rice. The various contrivances to effect distribution. The phenomena of germination. The comparison of a fern and a moss with a flowering plant.	Structure of wood, bark and pith; cells, vessels, and tissues. Functions of the stem, root, and leaves. The food of plants, and the manner in which a plant grows. The elements of classification according to natural characters, illustrated by familiar plants.
(13) Drawing	Easy outlines (free-hand), straight and curved.	More difficult outlines.	Easy linear perspective, and drawing from models.

* An Indian vernacular may be taken as a class subject, the decision resting with the Department, and in boys' schools may be made compulsory at the option of the Local Government.
† The instruction in botany shall be given, as far as possible, with the object of cultivating the scholar's powers of observation.

STANDARD OF EXAMINATION (HIGH).
(Final Examination.)

For boys only.	For girls only.
<i>Compulsory subjects.</i>	
1. English—A play of Shakespeare and a work of a standard prose-writer, with a Manual of English Literature.	1. The same.
2. French or German or an Indian vernacular ...	2. The same.
3. Arithmetic and book-keeping ...	3. Arithmetic.
4. Mathematics—Algebra up to quadratic equations; Euclid, Books I-IV, with easy deductions; mensuration.	4. The History of England and of India.
5. Political Economy ... General and Physical Geography.	5. General and Physical Geography.
<i>Optional subjects.</i>	
6. Mechanical Drawing ...	6. Freehand drawing.
7. Elementary Physics ...	7. Music (as in the final examination for pupil-teachers, Schedule II).
8. Elementary Chemistry ...	8. Botany.
9. An Indian vernacular if not taken up as a compulsory subject.	9. The same.

SCHEDULE II.
STANDARDS OF EXAMINATION FOR PUPIL-TEACHERS.

Subjects of examination.	End of first year.	End of second year.	End of third year.
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COMPULSORY SUBJECTS.

1. English including reading, writing, grammar, composition, and the explanation of passages.	1. Standard VII of Schedule I.	1. A selected portion of the course prescribed for the third year. A play of Shakespeare.	1. The standard prescribed for the final examination of high schools.
2. A second language—namely, Latin, French, German, or an Indian vernacular.*	2. Ditto	2. A course prescribed by the Department.	
3. History and Geography.	3. Ditto	3. A selected portion of the course prescribed for the third year.	3. The standard prescribed for the final examination of high schools.
4. Mathematics:— (a) Arithmetic. (b) Geometry and Algebra. or (b) Needlework (for girls).	4. Ditto Ditto	4. (a) The whole. (b) Euclid, Books I and II; Algebra, to simple equations. (b) To cut out and make parts of any plain garment; knitting.	4. (a) The whole. (b) The standard prescribed for the final examination of high schools. (b) The same with increased skill.

OPTIONAL SUBJECTS.

1. Music	... Notation; the treble and bass staves and the relation between them. Time, simple common and simple triple. The scales, major and minor, with the intervals (major and minor, perfect or other) found in both.	1. Notation; the alto and tenor staves and their relation to the treble. Time, compound common and compound triple. Chromatic intervals of the minor scale. Transposition from one key to another and from one variety of time to another (as from $\frac{3}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$).	1. Classification of intervals, as perfect and imperfect, consonant and dissonant. Resolution of individual dissonant intervals. Rudiments of harmony; positions of chords, progression, inversion, discord of the dominant seventh in its direct form only.
2. Drawing	... 2. Standard VII of Schedule I.	2. Linear perspective and drawing from models.	2. The same; blackboard drawing.
3. An Indian vernacular (if not taken up for the second language).	3. Ditto	3. A course prescribed by the Department.	

ART OF TEACHING.

...	To teach a class to the satisfaction of the Inspector.	To show increased skill in instruction and discipline. To write notes of a lesson on some common object.	To show increased skill in instruction and discipline. To answer questions on school method. To know the form of school registers, the mode of keeping them, and of making returns from them.
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* A second language may be treated either as a compulsory or as an optional subject, the decision resting with the Department in the case of each school.

**SCHEDULE III.
TRAINING COLLEGES FOR MEN.**

Subjects of Examination.

I.—READING AND REPETITION FROM MEMORY.

First Year.

To read with distinct utterance, due attention to punctuation, and just expression.

Each student must have learned at least 200 consecutive lines of poetry from one of the works appointed for the year in English Literature, some of which he will be called upon to repeat at the annual examination of the Training College.

Second Year.

Candidates will be expected to show improvement in the higher qualities of reading, such as expression, modulation of voice, and the correct delivery of long or involved sentences.

Each student must have learned at least 100 consecutive lines of poetry and 100 consecutive lines of prose from the works appointed in English Literature, and will be called upon to repeat some part at the annual examination of the Training College.

II.—PENMANSHIP.

First Year.

1. To write a specimen of the penmanship used in setting copies in text hand and small hand.
2. To write a passage from dictation.

Second Year.

As in the first year, but defects more severely visited with loss of marks. Also to set copies upon the black-board.

Note.—In examining the papers of the candidates, attention will be paid to the character of the hand-writing and the accuracy of the spelling.

III.—SCHOOL MANAGEMENT.

First Year.

1. To answer questions on the best methods of instruction in reading, spelling, writing, arithmetic, and other common subjects of elementary education, both generally and with special reference to the development of the intelligence of children.
2. To answer questions on the art of oral teaching generally.
3. To write notes of a lesson for a primary school and to teach a class.

Second Year.

1. To teach a class, in the presence of the Inspector, in any standard up to VII.
2. To answer questions in writing on the following subjects:—
 - (a) The different methods of organizing an elementary school.
 - (b) The form of school registers, the mode of keeping them and of making returns from them.
 - (c) The mode of teaching geography, history, and grammar, both generally and with special reference to the development of the intelligence of children.
3. To answer questions on the principles of education.

IV.—ENGLISH LITERATURE, GRAMMAR, AND COMPOSITION.

(Text-books in prose and poetry will be appointed from year to year.)

First Year.

1. To answer questions on the language, style, and subject-matter of the books appointed for the year.

2. To turn into prose a passage of poetry taken from one of the appointed text-books; or to write an essay on a given subject.
3. Précis-writing.

Second Year.

1. To answer questions on the language, style, and subject-matter of the books appointed for the year.
2. To turn into prose a passage of poetry.
3. To write an essay on a given subject.

V.—GEOGRAPHY.

First Year.

1. The elements of geography, mathematical and physical.
2. To draw a map of the four quarters of the globe, of each country in Europe, and of India (those of England and India in greater detail).
3. The physical and political geography of Europe.
4. The physical and political geography of India in detail.

Second Year.

1. The geography, physical, political and commercial, of Great Britain and its dependencies.
2. To draw maps readily and correctly upon the black-board.

VI.—HISTORY.

First Year.

1. General outlines of English history.
2. General outlines of Indian history.
3. The history of India; British period in greater detail.

Second Year.

1. General outlines of the history of Greece and Rome.
2. Elementary questions on Political Economy.

VII.—MATHEMATICS.

First Year.

1. Arithmetic, including mental arithmetic.
2. Algebra, as far as the theory of quadratic equations.
3. Geometry; easy problems on the geometry of the point, straight line, and circle (Wilson, Books I—III, edition of 1881).
4. Mensuration of plane surfaces, including the theory of surveying with the chain.

Second Year.

1. Algebra, as far as the binomial theorem.
2. Geometry; easy problems in the geometry of the point, straight line, and circle, including proportion (Wilson, Books I—V, edition of 1881).
3. Plane Trigonometry, as far as the solution of triangles.

VIII.—A SECOND LANGUAGE (LATIN OR AN INDIAN VERNACULAR).

First Year.

1. Passages for translation into English from two books to be named beforehand. Questions on grammar and idiom.
2. Easy passages of English to be translated into the second language.

Second Year.

1. Passages for translation into English from two books to be named beforehand. Explanation of passages; questions on grammar and idiom.
2. Translation of a passage from an author not previously named.
3. Translation from English into the second language.

Note.—The foregoing eight subjects are compulsory. Any of the following may also be presented.

IX.—MUSIC.

First Year.

1. Notation; the treble and bass staves and the relations between them.
2. Time; simple common and simple triple.
3. The scales, major and minor, with the intervals (major and minor, perfect or other) found in both, and the chromatic intervals found in the latter.
4. Transposition from one key to another and transcription from one variety of time to another as from $\frac{3}{4}$ to $\frac{3}{8}$

Second Year.

1. Notation; the alto and tenor staves, and their relations to the treble and bass.
2. Time; compound common and compound triple.
3. Classification of intervals, as perfect and imperfect, consonant and dissonant.
4. Resolution of individual dissonant intervals.
5. Rudiments of harmony, positions of chords, progression, inversion, discords by suspension (on fundamental basses only), the discord of the dominant seventh (in its direct form only).

X.—DRAWING.

First Year.

Free-hand drawing from copies and models.

Second Year.

Practical Geometry, perspective and projections.

XI.—A THIRD LANGUAGE.

1. For candidates who have taken Latin:—an Indian Vernacular, French, German, or Greek.
2. For candidates who have taken an Indian Vernacular:—Latin, French, German, or Greek.

Subjects of examination in the first and second year as under VIII.

XII.—PHYSICS.

The subjects of the First Arts Course of the Calcutta or Panjáb University.

TRAINING COLLEGES FOR WOMEN.

Subjects of Examination.

I.—READING AND REPETITION FROM MEMORY.

First Year.

To read with distinct utterance, due attention to punctuation, and just expression.

Each student must have learned at least 200 consecutive lines of poetry from some work selected by the authorities of the College, with the approval of the Inspector, a part of which she will be required to repeat at the annual inspection of the Training College.

Second Year.

Candidates will be expected to show improvement in the higher qualities of reading, such as expression, modulation of voice, and the correct delivery of long or involved sentences.

Each student must have learned, in addition to what she has learned in the first year, at least 100 consecutive lines of poetry and 100 consecutive lines of prose from works selected by the authorities of the College, with the approval of the Inspector; and she will be required to repeat some part at the annual Inspection of the Training College.

II.—PENMANSHIP.

First Year.

1. To write a specimen of the penmanship used in setting copies in text hand and small hand.
2. To write a passage from dictation.

Second Year.

As in the first year, but defects more severely visited with loss of marks. Also to set copies upon the black-board.

Note.—In examining the papers of the candidates, attention will be paid to the character of the hand-writing and the accuracy of the spelling.

III.—SCHOOL MANAGEMENT.

First Year.

1. The methods and principles of elementary teaching, both generally and with special reference to the development of the intelligence of children.
2. To write notes of a lesson for a primary school and to teach a class.
3. To answer questions on the form of school registers, the mode of keeping them, and of making returns from them.
4. Special questions on the following subjects will be inserted in the papers for those candidates who desire to obtain special certificates as teachers of infants:—
 - (a) The method of teaching infants and of conducting an infant school.
 - (b) Notes of object lessons, such as common domestic processes; functions of the human body; common plants, animals, and minerals; their appearance and use.

Second Year.

1. To teach a class in the presence of the Inspector.
2. To answer questions in writing on the following subjects:—
 - (a) The different methods of organizing an elementary school.
 - (b) The form of school registers, the mode of keeping them, and of making returns from them.

IV.—ENGLISH LITERATURE, GRAMMAR, AND COMPOSITION.

(Text-books in prose and poetry will be appointed from year to year.)

First Year.

1. To answer questions in the language, style, and subject-matter of the books appointed for the year.
2. To turn into prose a passage of poetry taken from one of the appointed text-books; or to write an essay on a given subject.
3. Précis-writing.

Second Year.

1. To answer questions on the language, style, and subject-matter of the books appointed for the year.
2. To turn into prose a passage of poetry.
3. To write an essay on a given subject.

V.—GEOGRAPHY.

First Year.

1. The elements of geography, mathematical and physical.
2. To draw maps of the great continents, of each country in Europe, and of India (those of England and India in greater detail).
3. The physical and political geography of Europe.
4. The physical and political geography of India in detail.

Second Year.

1. The physical, political, and commercial geography of Great Britain and its dependencies.
2. To draw maps readily and correctly upon the black-board.

VI.—HISTORY.

First Year.

1. General outlines of English history.
2. General outlines of Indian history.
3. The history of India, British period in greater detail.

Second Year.

A special period of English history.

VII.—ARITHMETIC.

The whole subject, with special reference to the method of teaching it.

VIII.—NEEDLEWORK.

First Year.

1. To cut out and make parts of any plain garment.
2. Knitting.

Second Year.

Domestic needlework in all its branches.

IX.—DOMESTIC ECONOMY.

First Year.

1. Rules for the preservation of health.
2. Clothing.
3. Food and its preparation.

Second Year.

In addition to the subjects of the first year—

4. Household accounts and management.
5. Sick-room management.

Note.—The foregoing nine subjects are compulsory. Any of the following may also be presented.

X.—MUSIC.

First Year.

1. Notation; the treble and bass staves and the relation between them.
2. Time; simple common and simple triple.

3. The scales, major and minor, with the intervals (major and minor, simple or other) found in both, and the chromatic intervals found in the latter.

4. Transposition from one key to another, and transcription from one variety of time to another (as from $\frac{3}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$).

Second Year.

1. Notation; the alto and tenor staves, and their relations to the treble and bass.
2. Time; compound common and compound triple.
3. Classification of intervals, as perfect and imperfect, consonant and dissonant.
4. Resolution of individual dissonant intervals.
5. Rudiments of harmony; positions of chords, progression, inversion, discords by suspension (on fundamental basses only); the discord of the dominant seventh (in its direct form only).

XI.—DRAWING.

First Year.

Free-hand drawing from copies and models.

Second Year.

Perspective; landscape drawing.

XII.—SECOND LANGUAGE (FRENCH, GERMAN, LATIN, OR AN INDIAN VERNACULAR).

First Year.

1. Passages for translation into English from two books to be named beforehand. Questions on grammar and idiom.
2. Easy passages of English to be translated into the second language.

Second Year.

1. Passages for translation into English from two books to be named beforehand. Explanation of passages; questions on grammar and idiom.
2. Translation of a passage from an author not previously named.
3. Translation from English into the second language.

XIII.—MATHEMATICS.

First Year.

1. Algebra, as far as simple equations.
2. Geometry; the first two books of Euclid.

Second Year.

In addition to the subjects of the first year—

1. Algebra; ratio and proportion.
2. Geometry; the third and fourth books of Euclid.

Page 1.

SCHEDULE IV.
SCHOLAR'S REGISTER.

(Name of child)

residing at _____

was born at _____

on the _____ day of _____ 18_____, as certified

by _____

Signed _____

(1) _____

(1) To be signed by the principal teacher, the secretary, or one of the managers of the school.
N. B.—This book, on the child's admission to an aided school, is to be given to the teacher, who will keep it, and at the end of every school year make an entry of the child's attendance (after three years of age). At each annual examination, the Inspector will make an entry showing the subjects in which the child has been examined and those in which he has passed. The book will be given back, duly made up, when the child leaves the school.

[illegible]

SCHEDULE V.

I.—FORM OF MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT (ARTICLES 40c).

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT between¹

hereinafter called *the Managers*, on behalf of the Managers of the _____
 School, and² _____ hereinafter
 called *the Surety*, the³ _____ of⁴ _____
 hereinafter
 called *the pupil-teacher*.

The Managers, for themselves, their executors, administrators, and assigns agree with the Surety, h—⁵ executors, administrators, and assigns as follows:—

1. The Managers agree to engage the pupil-teacher to serve under a certificated teacher, during the usual school hours, in keeping and teaching the said school for not less than two hours and not more than four hours daily during the engagement. Sunday is expressly excluded from this engagement.

2. This engagement shall begin on the first day of _____ 18—, and, subject to the proviso in paragraph 5, shall end on the last day of _____ 18—⁸; but if the pupil-teacher shall, with the consent of the other parties hereto, pass the Entrance Examination of the Calcutta or Panjāb University next preceding the last-mentioned date, this engagement may end on the 31st day of the month of May next following such examination, provided the pupil-teacher then enters a training college.

3. The pupil-teacher shall be paid as wages⁹ _____ per¹⁰ _____ in the first year, and this sum shall be increased by _____ per¹⁰ _____ in each subsequent year of the engagement; but such increase may be stopped, at the discretion of the Managers of the said school for the time being, for the unexpired remainder of any year after receipt of notice from the Department that the pupil-teacher has failed to pass the examination or to fulfil the other conditions required of a pupil-teacher, according to the standard of the preceding year, as prescribed in the articles of the Code of the Department applicable to the case.

4. The Managers shall also pay to the pupil-teacher one-half of the amount received from the Department on his account under the provisions of article 52 of the said Code. This payment shall be over and above all payments made as wages under paragraph 3 of this agreement.

5. *Provided* always that if the pupil-teacher fails to pass an examination for any year as specified in paragraph 3 of this agreement, this engagement shall, on the application of the Managers and with the consent of the Department, end on the last day of _____ 18—¹¹.

When this engagement is so extended, the course of study and the wages of the pupil-teacher in the remainder of the year succeeding that in respect of which the pupil-teacher failed shall be the same as in the last-mentioned year; and that year shall not be reckoned in calculating any payment to be made under paragraph 7 of this agreement.

6. The pupil-teacher, while the school is not being held, shall receive without charge, from a duly qualified teacher, special instruction for at least one hour a day. Such special instruction, and any instruction in secular subjects given to the pupil-teacher during school hours, shall be in the subjects in which the pupil-teacher is to be examined during this engagement pursuant to the said articles.

1. Names, &c., in full of a quorum of the Managers.

2. Name, &c., in full of father or other Surety of the pupil-teacher.

3. Father, or as the case may be.
4. Name in full of the pupil-teacher.

5. His or her.

6. The month defined by article 8.
7. Preceding month.
8. Three full years.

9. The sum to be inserted must be fixed at the discretion of the parties, having in view the local rate of wages and the advantages of the school as a place wherein to learn the business of a teacher.
10. Month, or as the parties may agree.

11. One year later than the second date in paragraph 2.

7. The pupil-teacher shall be liable to dismissal without notice for idleness, disobedience, or immoral conduct of a gross kind respectively; and this engagement shall be terminable on either side by a written notice of six months, or, in lieu of such notice, by the payment on either side of a sum equal to half the wages payable under paragraph 8 to the pupil-teacher for the year in which the engagement is terminated; such payment to be recoverable as a debt by the party entitled to receive it, and to be over and above the settlement of all other accounts between the parties.

8. The pupil-teacher enters into this engagement freely and voluntarily on his—her own part and with the privity and consent of the Surety.

9.¹³ The Surety agrees with the said Managers, their executors, administrators, and assigns to clothe, feed, lodge, and watch over the pupil-teacher during the continuance of this engagement in a manner befitting the same.

Signed¹⁴ this _____ day of _____ 18 _____,

_____ in presence of _____

_____ in presence of _____

_____ in presence of _____

N.B.—1. This memorandum must be executed by all the parties named in it, viz :—

Managers,

Surety.

Pupil-teacher.

2. If it be executed with blanks still remaining in it, they cannot legally be filled up afterwards, except as part of a new agreement requiring a new stamp.

3. The memorandum when executed should be deposited with the school papers [article 43 (d)]. The Surety should have either an executed duplicate (which requires a second stamp) or a certified copy. The agreement exists only between the persons who sign it. If any of them are changed (by removal of managers or otherwise), a new agreement in the following form should be executed :—

II.—FORM OF NEW AGREEMENT ON CHANGE OF MANAGERS.

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT between¹ _____

within and hereinafter described as *the Surety*;² _____

the persons within described as *the Managers*;³ _____

and⁴ _____

hereinafter described as *the Managers*.

1. The said Surety and the said² _____

hereby mutually rescind the within written Agreement, and agree that the same shall be henceforth determined, and of no further force as regards the future.

2. The said Surety and the said Managers hereby mutually agree to adopt and enter into an Agreement in the same words and to the same effect as the within written

¹² His or her.

¹³ This paragraph may be modified if the pupil-teacher is treated as a boarder.

¹⁴ All the parties named must sign, but need not do so together. Each signature should be written in a separate line, and must be attested by that of a witness who sees it made. The same witness may attest more than one signature.

¹ The Surety in the existing memorandum.

² The Managers in the original memorandum and the executors of any of them who are deceased.

³ The name, description, and address of the new Manager or Managers.

⁴ The name, description, and address of the present Managers, excluding such as will be no longer Managers, and including the new Manager or Managers.

Agreement for the unexpired term thereof; and that the like obligation and responsibility shall exist and be of force between them in like manner and to all intents and purposes as if the name of the said⁵ had been inserted therein and signed thereto, instead of the name of the said⁶

5. The new Manager or Managers.
6. Deceased or outgoing Managers.

Signed⁷ this _____ day of _____ 18 _____,

_____ in the presence of _____

_____ in the presence of _____

_____ in the presence of _____

7. All the parties named must sign, but need not do so together. Each signature should be written in a separate line, and must be attested by that of a witness who sees it made. The same witness may attest more than one signature.

N.B.—1. This memorandum must be executed by all the parties named in it, viz. :—

Managers,

Surety,

Pupil-teacher.

2. If it be executed with blanks still remaining in it, they cannot legally be filled up afterwards, except as part of a new agreement requiring a new stamp.

III.—FORM FOR CANCELLING ENGAGEMENT OF PUPIL-TEACHERS.

To be endorsed on the original Memorandum.

The within written Memorandum of Agreement is cancelled by the undersigned parties, being the same parties by whom it was executed.

Witness our hands, this _____ day of _____ 18 _____.

A. MACKENZIE,
Secretary to the Govt. of India.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

REPORTS ON THE STATE OF THE SEASON AND PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS FOR
THE WEEK ENDING 17th JUNE 1885.

GENERAL REMARKS.—Rain has again fallen throughout the Madras Presidency, and prospects have now slightly improved in the Bellary and Anantapur districts and are fair elsewhere. In Mysore rain has also been general,—the crops are improving, and agricultural operations are in active progress. Over 4 inches of rain fell in Coorg during the week, and the prospects of the season are good.

Slight rain has fallen in most districts of the Bombay Presidency, and *kharif* preparations are progressing everywhere. Rain is also reported from the Berars, Hyderabad, and the Central India and Rajputana States, where agricultural prospects appear to be good. In the Central Provinces rain has been general, and the weather continues cloudy and wet. *Kharif* preparations are in general progress, and sowings have commenced in places. In the Punjab no rain fell during the week under report; *kharif* ploughings and sowings are going on, and prospects are generally good. In the North-Western Provinces and Oudh slight rain has fallen in a few places; *kharif* operations have commenced. There has been good seasonable rain in all parts of Bengal, except in Orissa and the Patna district, where more rain is needed. Prospects have much improved, and agricultural operations are being continued vigorously. Heavy rain has fallen in Assam, where the state of the standing crops is good. Ploughing and sowing are also going on.

Rain fell throughout British Burma, and ploughing operations are in general progress.

The public health is fairly satisfactory in most districts. Prices are still high in Bengal, and are reported to be rising in the Central Provinces. Elsewhere they are generally steady.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Madras—(June 17th)		
Bellary ...	1.05 (average)	Standing crops dry, good; wet, moderately good. Fever in one taluk; 7 deaths from cholera.
Kurnool ...	.53 (")	Agricultural operations progressing. Cattle-disease in one taluk; 13 deaths from cholera.
Ganjam ...	.20 (")	97 deaths from cholera.
Kistna ...	1.44 (")	Fever and small-pox in parts. River 9 inches over ancient. 105 deaths from cholera reported last week and 30 this week.
Chingleput (Madras) ...	.19 (")	Standing crops generally fair; harvest paddy in one taluk, outturn below average. Cattle-disease slight in two taluks.
Coimbatore ...	.62 (")	Standing crops generally good; harvest <i>cholum</i> and <i>cumba</i> in one taluk, outturn average. Fever and small-pox in parts; 9 deaths from cholera.
Tanjore ...	.54 (")	Standing crops generally good, except in parts of one taluk where rain is wanted; harvest paddy, gingelly, and indigo, outturn up to average. 67 deaths from cholera.
Madura ...	For week ending } 10th June 1885, } average .95; 17th } June, average .16.	Fever prevalent.
Malabar ...	9.69 (average)	First crop paddy cultivation progressing. Small-pox slight in seven taluks; fever in two and cattle-disease in one; 12 deaths from cholera.
Travancore ...	3.83	Small-pox and fever in parts. <i>General Remarks.</i> —Generally prospects fair, slightly improved in Bellary and Anantapur.
Bombay—(June 17th)		
Karachi ...	Jati, 47; average of four other stations, 48.	Strong monsoon winds. River at Kotri on 15th, 12 feet 8 inches against 15 feet 5 inches on same date last year. Fever in six and cattle-disease in two talukas; loss of 13 cows and bullocks in Manjhand and of 10 sheep in Ghorabari taluk; small-pox in ten villages in districts, 4 fresh cases, 5 deaths, 15 remaining; 42 cases of cholera in the municipal limits of Karachi, 32 deaths, 13 remaining; 49 cases in Karachi rural circle, 15 deaths, 34 remaining; in Manjhand 2 cases, 2 deaths; in Tatta 72 cases, 40 deaths, 32 remaining; in Sakro 71 cases, 50 deaths, 32 remaining; in Ghorabari 12 cases, 9 deaths, 3 remaining; in Mirpur Batoro 18 cases, 11 deaths, 5 remaining; in Sujawal 38 cases, 23 deaths, 15 remaining; in Jati 14 cases, 18 deaths, 1 remaining; and in Shahbandar 147 cases, 91 deaths, 99 remaining. Prices—wheat, red rice, and <i>karri</i> in Karachi 30, 36 and 38, in Kotri 32, 38 and 40, in Ghorabari 22, 38 and 36, and in Jati 26, 42 and 40 pounds per rupee, respectively.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Bombay—contd.		
Hyderabad	Rain in four talukas, 41 (average).	<i>Kharif</i> preparations in progress; cultivation good in different parts of Mirpur and Tando Allahyar talukas. Water a little deficient in Hyderabad and Badin talukas. River at Kotri on 15th, 12 feet 8 inches against 11 feet 9 inches on same date last year. Fever in three, small-pox in two, cattle-disease in four, and measles in one taluka; cholera in Hyderabad, Dero, Mohabat, Mirpur Khas, and Tando Allahyar talukas; 1 death from cholera in Nathani, taluka Naudhato, introduced from Sibi. Wheat 28, <i>juari</i> 40, <i>bajri</i> 40, white rice 20, and red rice 28 pounds per rupee.
Ahmedabad	10	Manning and tilling operations continue. Public health good. Wheat 31 and <i>bajri</i> 35 pounds per rupee.
Baroda	<i>Nil</i>	Public health fair; cholera in Navsari town, Songad and Moha talukas of that division, and in Baroda, Sakbada, Sinor, Choranda, Jatro, and Dabhoi of the Baroda division; 4 deaths in Baroda city. Land being prepared for next season. <i>Bajri</i> 30, wheat 28, and rice 23 pounds per rupee.
Surat	45; total 202 during week; maximum in Chikhli, 222; minimum in Bardoli, 33.	Preparations for sowing continue. Cholera in Surat, Olphad, Chorasi, Bardoli, and Jalapur, 99 cases, 56 deaths. <i>Juari</i> 39 and <i>nagli</i> 45 pounds per rupee.
Nasik	<i>Nil</i>	Rain falls off. Cholera in Nasik, Dindori, Niphad, Chander, Malegaon, B.ghan, and Kalyan, 273 attacks, 125 deaths. Wheat 31½, <i>bajri</i> 34, and rice 24 pounds per rupee.
Colaba (Bombay)	Rain every day; total of week, 25½; total to date, 219; being 82½ below average.	Abnormal temperature 3° cool on 10th and 11th, 2° cool on 13th, 1° warm on 16th, and <i>nil</i> on all other days; vapour in air normal; abnormal wind southerly on 10th, 11th, and 12th, and northerly on 14th and 15th; gale on 10th and 11th; thunder and lightning on 13th.
Poona	Slight showers in six talukas.	Sowing operation begun in places. 130 cases of cholera in three talukas, 63 deaths. <i>Bajri</i> 32 and <i>juari</i> 41; in Poona <i>bajri</i> 32 and <i>juari</i> 37 pounds per rupee.
Ahmednagar	Raburi, 131; Nagar, 63; Shesgaon, 61; Songannur, 62; Shingonda, 33; Jamkhed, 36; Pamer, 23; Newasa, 12; Karjat, 7; Akola and Kopergaon, <i>nil</i> .	3 attacks of cholera, 2 deaths in Nagar, 1 death in Jamkhed; 7 attacks, 2 deaths in Shesgaon; and 6 attacks, 3 deaths in Newasa. <i>Juari</i> from 48 to 69 and <i>bajri</i> from 36 to 51 pounds per rupee.
Sholapur	Sholapur, 24; B.ash, 23; Madhur, 27; Karmala, 28; Pandharpur, 49; Sangola, 22.	<i>Juari</i> 49 pounds 26 tolas and <i>bajri</i> 37 pounds 2 tolas per rupee.
Dharwar	Rain throughout in district; Hargal, 40; Dharwar, Ramkapur, and Kalghatgi, 30; Hubli, 20; Navalgund, Gadag, Ramannur, Karajgi, and Ron, above 50; Kol, 58.	Sowing of rice generally commenced. Scarcity of drinking-water in one and of fodder in three talukas still continue. Cholera in Dharwar, Hubli, Navalgund, and Kalghatgi, 103 fatal out of 185 cases; small-pox in two talukas. Rice 22 to 32 and <i>juari</i> 35 to 50 pounds per rupee.
Kanara	Karwar, 1777?	Sowing operations continue. Cholera in Halval, 19 cases, 14 deaths; in Supa 4 deaths; in Karwar taluka 5 cases, 4 deaths; and in Mugad 7 cases, 6 deaths; small-pox in three talukas; cattle-disease in Supa. Common rice in Karwar 13½ seers, district average 14 seers per rupee.
Rajkot	<i>Nil</i>	Rain keeping off. General health good. Weather very warm and cloudy. <i>Bajri</i> 31 and <i>juari</i> 43 pounds per rupee.
Bengal—(June 17th)		
Chittagong	6-27	Weather reasonable. Prospects of crops fair; sowing of <i>aus</i> paddy continues; lands being prepared for <i>aman</i> paddy. Prices somewhat risen. Cholera lingers.
Dacca	8-03	Prospects generally good. Rain has done much good to the crops. Jute, sugarcane, and paddy plants doing well. Public health good.
24-Pergunnahs (Calcutta)	1-95	Prospects of early crops fair; lands being prepared for <i>aman</i> paddy. Prices of common rice 13 to 15 seers per rupee. Public health generally good.
Mooredabad	91; rain fell throughout the district.	Weather moist and hot. Rain has done much good, but more is wanted; if more rain falls, the rest of the <i>aus</i> crop can still be sown. Price of rice 12 to 13½ seers per rupee. Public health good.
Burdwan	288; Cutwa, 2-48; Culna, 1-79; Ranee-gunge, 94.	Rain has improved the prospects of crops. Price of rice 12 to 15 seers per rupee. Fever and cholera in the Sadra subdivision.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Bengal—contd.		
Rungpore ...	19.04	Prospects of <i>aus</i> paddy and jute very promising; land being ploughed for transplanting <i>aman</i> paddy. Price of rice stationary. Public health good.
Bhagalpur ...	1.14	Rain has done much good. Prospects of crops fair. Price of rice 13 seers and 14 chittacks per rupee. Public health good.
Purneah ...	3.40	Crops backward; millet being reaped; sowing and weeding continue. Price of common rice 15 seers per rupee. Public health fair.
Patna ...	.05	<i>Cheena</i> and sugarcane doing well; preparation for sowing of <i>bhadai</i> and paddy crops have commenced. Rain urgently needed. A few cases of cholera reported from Barh subdivision, otherwise public health good.
Durbhunga ...	2.70	Rain has served to improve agricultural prospects. Prices stationary. Some cases of sporadic cholera still reported.
Hazaribagh ...	1.34	Weather hot and cloudy. Ploughing and sowing going on rapidly; sugarcane promising. Cholera somewhat diminished in certain places, but a new outbreak reported from thana Chourparan and also from Giridih subdivision, otherwise general health good.
Cuttack ...	Light rain on night of 15th.	Weather hot. <i>Sarad</i> paddy being sown; <i>beati</i> paddy growing well, but requires rain. Price of rice unchanged. Public health good; sporadic cases of cholera reported from Juggore subdivision.
Midnapur ...	1.45	Weather cooler. Ploughing and sowing progressing. Public health fair.
Khoolna ...	3.88; heavy rain on 12th.	Weather variable. Cultivation of <i>aman</i> and <i>aus</i> paddy progressing. Price of rice remains high. Public health good.
Dinagapore ...	Ample rain has fallen throughout the district.	Prospects of crops satisfactory. Price of rice 13 seers per rupee. Some cholera in the south and south-west.
Pubna (Serajganj) ...	6.08; rain plentiful	Rivers rising. Crops backward, but promising. Price of rice stationary. Public health good.
Gya ...	Nearly 1.0; rain at Gya and in neighbourhood.	Weather cooler. Ploughing for <i>bhadai</i> crop going on. Prices unchanged. Public health fair.
Chumparun ...	2.80	Rain has facilitated sowing of <i>bhadai</i> and rice crops. Prices rising slightly. A few cases of cholera reported; public health otherwise fair.
General Remarks. —The monsoon appears to have now generally set in. There has been good seasonable rain in all parts of the Province during the week, except in Orissa and Patna, where the falls were slight and more needed. Prospects everywhere have much improved, and agricultural operations are being carried on with vigour. The young plants of <i>aus</i> paddy, jute, sugarcane, and indigo are now thriving well; the sowings of <i>aus</i> paddy are being made in places, where the first seedlings have withered away. Cases of cholera are still reported from many districts; in Beerbhoom the disease is said to be rather severe. Small-pox still lingers in parts of Chota Nagpur. There is also fever in a few districts. Public health, however, is on the whole fairly satisfactory.		
N. W. Provinces and Oudh—(June 18th)		
Benares (June 16th)	Rain very slight; shower on Sunday night.	Heat intense. Sugarcane doing well. Supplies sufficient. Prices fluctuating slightly. Isolated cases of cholera still reported, otherwise public health good. No cattle-disease.
Gorakhpur (" 15th)	Nil	Passing clouds, with east wind. Prices stationary. Public health good.
Fyzabad (" 16th)	Nil	Weather very hot. Irrigation of sugarcane going on. Markets well supplied. Prices steady. Fever in two tahsils. Condition of cattle good.
Lucknow (" 16th)	Nil	Excessive heat. Markets well supplied. Prices stationary. Health of people, as well as the condition of cattle, good.
Rae Bareilly (" ")	Nil	Heat excessive. <i>Suman</i> and sugarcane are being irrigated. Prices steady. General health good.
Paritabgarh (" 16th)	Nil	Weather hot but seasonable. Sugarcane and indigo being irrigated; cultivators manuring their fields.
Allahabad (" ")	Nil	Weather very hot. Markets well supplied. Health good.
Cawnpore (" 15th)	Nil	Heat excessive; weather sultry and cloudy at times. Indigo and sugarcane promise well; fields being manured for the <i>kharif</i> sowings. Prices rising. Fever in four and small-pox in one par-gana. Rinderpest reported from two tahsils.
Banda (" 16th)	Nil	Heat excessive; clouds hovering about. Health good. Slight cholera still continues in Karwi and Mau. 2 cases in the city.
Ballia (" ")	A shower of rain this morning.	Easterly winds. Prices slightly risen. 21 deaths from cholera.
Farakhabad (" ")	Slight rain on 14th and 15th.	Weather was very hot before the rain and is now close and sultry. Prices remain stationary. A few cases of cholera still reported.
Sitapur (" ")	Nil	Weather very hot but seasonable. Lands being broken up for <i>kharif</i> cultivation. Few signs of the monsoons at present.
Dareilly (" ")	Nil	Heat excessive. Prices of food grains slightly dearer. Public health good. Some slight local cattle-disease.
Kumaon (" 16th)	Nil	Hot, with high west wind. Rain required for millets. Prices stationary. Health fair. A few cases of small-pox.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
N. W. Provinces and Oudh—contd.		
Agra (June 15th)	Rain in two pargannas on 14th, 20 and 30; and slight shower at Sadr.	<i>Kharif</i> ploughings begun. Prices somewhat higher. Slight cholera and fever continue.
Jhansi (" 16th)	Jhansi } 40; hail Garotha } in two villages of pargana Garotha.	Heat increasing. Slight rise in prices. Public health and condition of cattle good.
Meerut (" ")	Nil	Weather extremely hot night and day. Some <i>rabi</i> crops still to be threshed. Prices steady. Health generally good. <i>General Remarks.</i> —Weather reasonable, though generally very hot. Markets well stocked. Prices nearly stationary. Public health good. Slight cholera continues in a few districts. Condition of cattle good.
Punjab—(June 17th)		
Hissar (June 16th)	Nil	Weather very hot and dry. <i>Kharif</i> sowings in progress. Prices falling.
Delhi (" ")	Nil	Health fair. Prices tending to rise.
Umballa (" ")	Nil	Health fair. Threshing of <i>rabi</i> crops in progress. Prices almost stationary.
Jullundur (" ")	Nil	Health good. Prices almost stationary.
Ferozepore (" ")	Nil	Health good. <i>Kharif</i> ploughing commenced. Prices stationary.
Amritsar (" ")	Nil	Health good. Prices stationary.
Sialkot (" ")	Nil	Health good. <i>Kharif</i> sowings in progress. Prices stationary.
Lahore (" ")	Nil	Health good. <i>Kharif</i> sowings in progress. Prices stationary.
Mooltan (" ")	Nil	Cholera still lingering, otherwise health good. <i>Kharif</i> sowings nearly finished. Prices almost stationary.
Rawalpindi (" ")	Nil	Health good. <i>Rabi</i> crops garnered; <i>kharif</i> sowings in progress. Prices falling.
Shahpur (" ")	Nil	Health good. Prices stationary.
Dera Ismail Khan (" ")	Nil	Health good. Prices falling.
Peshawar (" ")	Nil	Health good. No further injury to crops. Prices fluctuating. <i>General Remarks.</i> —No rain. Health generally good. <i>Kharif</i> operations in progress. Prices generally stationary.
Central Provinces—(June 17th)		
Nagpur ...	1.29; daily heavy showers.	Weather cloudy. <i>Kharif</i> preparations in general. Slight cattle-disease. Prices risen.
Jubbulpore ...	2.47	<i>Kharif</i> ploughings progressing. Cholera in places. Wheat 23 and rice 14 seers per rupee.
Saugor (June 16th) ...	1.58	Weather very close. <i>Kharif</i> ploughings general; cotton sowings commenced in places. Health fair. Prices rising.
Seoni ...	1.05	Weather cloudy. Ploughing almost completed. Fever, cattle-disease, and small-pox prevalent. Prices risen.
Hoshangabad ...	2.06	Weather reasonable. <i>Kharif</i> ploughings completed. 54 cases of cholera, 46 deaths. Prices stationary.
Khandwa ...	2.97	Weather cloudy. Fields being prepared for <i>kharif</i> . 25 cases of cholera, 12 deaths. Rice 16 and <i>purri</i> 28 seers per rupee.
Raipur ...	1.78	Weather cloudy and close. <i>Kharif</i> ploughings and rice sowings in progress. Cholera continues; cattle-disease in places. Prices rising. <i>General Remarks.</i> —Rain has been general, and weather continues cloudy and rainy. <i>Kharif</i> preparations in general progress; sowings commenced in places. Cholera in a few districts. Prices reported rising.
British Burma—(June 17th)		
Akyab (June 13th)	11.51	Total rainfall 18.24. Cholera in town abated; slight in two circles; cattle-disease in one circle.
Bassein (" ")	0.83	Total rainfall 13.48. Slight cholera in town; cattle-disease in five townships. Plantain rather backward.
Rangoon (" ")	2.62	Total rainfall 10.95. Public health good.
Amherst (Moulmein) (" ")	4.06	Total rainfall 14.70. Public health good. Ploughing commenced.
Tatoy (" ")	3.81	Total rainfall 15.50. Public health good.
Pegu (" ")	2.17	Total rainfall 12.07. Public health good; a few deaths of cattle from cattle-disease. Ploughing commenced.
Henzada (" ")	2.20	Total rainfall 8.41. Public health and health of cattle good.
Prome (" ")	1.47	Total rainfall 6.66. Public health good; cattle healthy.
Toungoo (" ")	4.96	Total rainfall 16.72. Public health and health of cattle good. Ploughing commenced.
Thayetmyo (" ")	2.18	Total rainfall 5.68. Public health and health of cattle good. <i>General Remarks.</i> —Slight cholera in Akyab, Bassein, Hanthawaddy, Thongwa, Amherst, and Shwegyein; small-pox in Kyauksephoo and Tharrawaddy, elsewhere public health good; cattle-disease in Akyab, Bassein, Pegu, Hanthawaddy, Tharrawaddy, Thongwa, and Amherst, elsewhere health of cattle good. The rains have been more steady during the week, and ploughing operations have commenced in all districts.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Assam—(June 17th)		
Gauhati ...	6.19 of rain during the week ending 16th instant; continued heavy rain during the above week.	Weather cool. <i>Aus</i> being reaped; prospects good; ploughing operations for <i>sali</i> crop in progress; sugarcane doing well. Cholera prevalent.
Sylhet ...	15.46	Heavy rain has improved prospects of crops. Public health also improved; cholera has not yet disappeared; cattle-disease decreasing. Ploughing and sowing of <i>damchi</i> and <i>marali</i> crops continue. Common rice 14½ seers per rupee. Prospects of tea on tili gardens improved. Manufacture on flats checked by continual rain. 2 deaths from cholera from Hainakandi and 3 from Lakhimpur reported. Weather reasonable. Preparing lands for <i>sali dhan</i> . Cattle-disease prevalent.
Cachar ...	11.69; weather wet.	
Dibrugarh ...	3.96	
Mysore and Coorg— (June 17th)		
Bangalore	1.25; rain has been general throughout the State.	Crops improving; agricultural operations in active progress; prospects fair. Cholera abating. No material change in prices. Ploughing of paddy-fields continues. Slight fall in prices of food-grains. Prospects of season and public health generally good.
Mysore		
Mercara ...			4.06
Berar and Hyderabad (June 17th)		
Amraoti ...	5.14	Weather cloudy. Cotton sowing commenced. Wheat 22 and <i>juari</i> 26 seers per rupee.
Akola ...	3.17	Weather cloudy. <i>Kharif</i> preparations continue.
Hyderabad ...	4.05 of rain during the week.	Ploughing has commenced for <i>kharif</i> and <i>abi</i> crops. General health good, except in Amberpet and Patil talukas, where cholera again prevails. Prices—wheat 15, coarse rice 12½, white <i>juari</i> 17½, yellow <i>juari</i> 22½, and <i>tur</i> 17 seers per current sicca rupee.
Central India States— (June 17th)		
Indore ...	1.31	Health good. Signs of approaching monsoon.
Morar (Gwalior) ...	.05	Health good; cholera of a mild type in Lashkar. Weather stormy and cloudy; heat intense.
Neemuch ...	.15	Scarcity of water continues. Health good.
Goona ...	.31	Health and prospects good.
Sutna ...	.23	Weather hot and cloudy. Cholera decreasing at Rewah.
Agar ...	.94	Health and prospects good.
Sohore ...	.05	Weather cloudy.
Nowgong ...	.14	Weather hot and sultry. Health good.
Rajputana— (June 17th)		
Abu (June 17th)	1.71	Weather cloudy, windy, and monsoonish.
Sirohi (" 14th)	.11	Tanks dry, wells and health good. Weather hot and cloudy.
Marwar (" 12th)	Copious rainfall in districts.	Some water in Jodhpur city tanks. Small-pox prevails. Weather very cloudy, stormy, and close; heat intense. Prices stationary.
Meywar (" 14th)	.35	Tanks and wells very good. Health good. Weather cloudy.
Harotli (" 13th)	Deoli, .63; Tonk, .03.	Weather occasionally stormy. Cholera in Kotah town districts, 153 deaths in Tonk; 10 deaths also reported from Bundi.
Jhallawar (" 12th)	.29; showery	Weather cooler. No more cholera.
Ajmere (" 16th)	.Nil	Small-pox prevalent, otherwise health good. High winds blowing cool.
Jessore (" ")	.12	Winds high. Health good.
Uwar (" ")	.Nil	Strong wind. Cholera in two tahsils, 2 fatal cases, otherwise health good. <i>Kharif</i> preparations continue.
Bikaner (" 8th)	.Nil	Wells fair. Health good. Weather partially cloudy.
Nepal—(June 11th)		
Katmandu ...	.80	Weather still hot. Rice and Indian-corn have been sown.

E. C. BUCK,
Secretary to the Government of India.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

ABSTRACT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNCIL OF THE GOVERNOR
GENERAL OF INDIA, ASSEMBLED FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAKING
LAWS AND REGULATIONS UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE
ACT OF PARLIAMENT 24 & 25 VIC., CAP. 67.

The Council met at Viceregal Lodge, Simla, on Wednesday, the 10th June,
1885.

PRESENT:

His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General of India, K.P., G.C.B.,
G.C.M.G., G.M.S.I., G.M.I.E., P.C., *presiding*.

His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab, LL.D., K.C.S.I., C.I.E.

His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, G.C.B., C.I.E.

Lieutenant-General the Hon'ble T. F. Wilson, C.B., C.I.E.

The Hon'ble C. P. Ilbert, C.I.E.

The Hon'ble Sir S. C. Bayley, K.C.S.I., C.I.E.

The Hon'ble T. C. Hope, C.S.I., C.I.E.

The Hon'ble Sir A. Colvin, K.C.M.G., C.I.E.

REGISTRATION ACT, 1877, AMENDMENT BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT introduced the Bill to amend the Registration Act, 1877, and moved that it be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the Hon'ble Sir S. Bayley, Mr. Hunter and the Mover.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT also moved that the Bill and Statement of Objects and Reasons be published in the local official Gazettes in English, and in such other languages as the Local Governments think fit.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

BURMA COURTS BILL.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT also introduced the Bill to amend the Burma Courts Act, 1875, and section 360 of the Code of Civil Procedure, and moved that it be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the Hon'ble Sir S. Bayley and the Mover, with instructions to report in one month. He said that he had suggested that the Committee be instructed to report in a month because he understood that the Chief Commissioner was anxious that the measure should be brought into operation as speedily as possible, and, unless some instruction of this kind was given, the Committee could not, under the standing rules, report before the expiration of three months.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT also moved that the Bill and Statement of Objects and Reasons be published in the *British Burma Gazette* in English, and in such other languages as the Local Administration thinks fit.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

OUDH ESTATES ACT, 1869, AMENDMENT BILL.

The Hon'ble SIR STEWART BAYLEY moved that the Bill to amend the Oudh Estates Act, 1869, be taken into consideration. He said:—

"This Bill was introduced into the Council by my hon'ble friend Mr. Quinton in October last, and it is owing to his absence that it has devolved upon me to proceed with it now.

"It will be in the recollection of the Council that the grounds for making this alteration were explained by Mr. Quinton at the time. They were that under the Oudh Estates Act the taluqdars have the power to make

bequests of their estates under certain conditions by will when duly executed and registered. But the Registration Act provides two different processes. It provides for registration, which involves a copy of the document being kept, and also of its being kept open for inspection; and it provides for the simple deposit of a will in a sealed cover. Many of the Oudh taluqdars were under the impression that depositing a will in a sealed cover was sufficient, and in a certain number of instances action has been taken on wills so deposited, and the property has passed accordingly into other hands; but in 1882 a case came before the Judicial Commissioner in which it was decided that the depositing of a will was not, within the meaning of the law, duly registering a will. The case went up to the Privy Council on appeal, and the decision of the Judicial Commissioner on the point was upheld, so that there can be no doubt as to how the law stands. The Lieutenant-Governor, Sir Alfred Lyall, pointed out to us the great inconvenience likely to arise from this decision, not only in regard to the past, because a certain number of properties had already changed hands, but also in regard to the future, because the taluqdars would have to give publicity to their wills beforehand, the result of which would be to diminish the value and utility of their power of bequest; and it was in accordance with Sir Alfred Lyall's views that this legislation was undertaken. It will be seen that the law provides practically that wills so deposited shall be deemed to be duly registered, and that it operates absolutely in regard to the future and with certain limitations in regard to the past. Those limitations, as they stood in the Bill as introduced, were that the law should not interfere with any decree passed or any suit instituted before the introduction of the Bill.

"The Bill was sent to the Local Government, and by them was referred to the Taluqdars Association of Oudh; and it is in accordance with the wishes of the Association and the Lieutenant-Governor that the first Motion for amendment which stands in my name is proposed.

"That Motion merely alters the limitation to this effect, that, instead of saving decrees passed before the introduction of this Bill, we save all decrees passed before the passing of this Act. The Bill in its present shape has the approval of the Lieutenant-Governor and the taluqdars, who are the persons principally concerned.

"The second Motion for amendment which stands in my name has for its object merely to make the meaning of the clause clearer."

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY also moved that in section 2 (a), for the words "twenty-third day of October, 1884," the words "passing of this Act" be substituted.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY also moved that in section 2 (b), after the word "is" the words "at the time of the passing of this Act" be inserted.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble SIR STEUART BAYLEY also moved that the Bill, as amended, be passed.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

SUNDRY BILLS.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT moved that the Hon'ble Sir S. Bayley and the Hon'ble Mr. Hunter be added to the Select Committee on the Bill to amend and define the law of Testamentary and Intestate Succession to Khojias.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Hon'ble MR. ILBERT also moved that the Hon'ble Sir S. Bayley be added to the Select Committee on the Bill to amend section 265 of the Indian Contract Act, 1872.

The Motion was put and agreed to.

The Council adjourned to Wednesday, the 24th June, 1885.

D. FITZPATRICK,

Secretary to the Government of India,

Legislative Department.

SIMLA;

The 19th June, 1885. }



SUPPLEMENT TO
The Gazette of India.

N^o 26.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, JUNE 27, 1885.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

A SUPPLEMENT to the GAZETTE OF INDIA will be published from time to time, containing such Official Papers and information as the Government of India may deem to be of interest to the Public, and such as may usefully be made known.

Non-Subscribers to the GAZETTE may receive the SUPPLEMENT separately on a payment of six Rupees per annum if delivered in Calcutta, or nine Rupees if sent by Post.

No Official Orders or Notifications, the publication of which in the GAZETTE OF INDIA is required by Law, or which it has been customary to publish in the CALCUTTA GAZETTE, will be included in the SUPPLEMENT. For such Orders and Notifications the body of the GAZETTE must be looked to.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

SEPARATE REVENUE.

Post Office.

REPORT ON THE OPERATIONS OF THE POST OFFICES IN INDIA FOR THE YEAR 1883-84.

No. 1376A, dated Simla, the 15th June 1885.

RESOLUTION—By the Government of India, Department of Finance and Commerce.

READ—

Report on the Operations of the Post Offices in India for the year 1883-84.

RESOLUTION.—This Report, received in print on the 29th April 1885, is submitted later than it need otherwise have been, owing to the orders requiring the figures of the last section of the Report to be compared and agreed with the figures accepted by the Comptroller and Auditor General for the Finance and Revenue Accounts. As the accounts of each year are not closed by the Comptroller and Auditor General until nearly the close of the following year, the Post Office Report cannot be submitted earlier than the end of March, if the agreement of the figures is to be exact and final. But the Governor General in Council believes that the information as to the receipts and expenditure in the possession of the Comptroller and Auditor General by the end of November is sufficient to enable him to prevent the occurrence of any material difference between the figures of the Director General of Post Office and those of the accounts; and His Excellency considers that it is unnecessary to delay the submission of the Post Office Report for three or four months to ensure absolute correctness. He therefore directs that the Director General of the Post Office shall arrange with the Comptroller and Auditor General to have the necessary examination of the figures in the Report for 1884-85 made in the

end of November or beginning of December next, and shall submit the Report in time to reach the Government of India not later than the 31st December.

2. The most important extension of Post Office work during the year was the introduction from 1st December 1883 of the scheme for utilising Post Offices for telegraph work. The scheme was in operation for four months of the period covered by this Report, and has since been very successfully worked and extended. The Director General of Telegraphs recently submitted a special Report showing the progress made up to the 31st December 1884. That Report was published in the *Gazette of India* of the 21st March last, with Resolution in the Public Works Department, No. 50T. of 17th March, in which the appreciation of the Government of India of the services of the Postal and Telegraph Departments in connection with the scheme was recorded.

3. The other extensions of work during the year were the establishment of a money-order exchange with France from 1st July 1883, and the introduction of reply post-cards from 1st February 1884.

4. Postal notes, which were introduced from 1st January 1883, were sold to the total value of nearly a lakh and a half during 1883-84. The rate of sale was rather lower than in the first quarter after the introduction of the notes, during which the sales amounted to ₹40,500. The notes have not as yet become popular.

5. The second year of the existence of Post Office Savings Banks affords further proof of the success of those Banks. During the year the amount deposited was 103½ lakhs of rupees as against 43½ lakhs in 1882-83; the amount withdrawn, 58½ lakhs as against 16 lakhs; the interest allowed, ₹1,87,000 as against half a lakh; and the balance at the close of the year rose from under 28 lakhs, the property of 39,121 depositors, to over 75 lakhs, the property of 84,848 depositors. The number of banks and sub-banks open at the close of the year was 5,199 as against 4,238 at the beginning, the banks opened for the first time in the year being 961, of which 535 were in the Bombay Circle, where Post Office Saving Banks had not been opened in 1882-83.

6. The figures showing the transactions of Post Office Savings Banks in this Report serve to complete those contained in the Comptroller General's Report on District and Railway Savings Banks during 1883-84, which was published in the *Gazette of India* of 31st January last. The Comptroller General's Report showed that the balance in the District Savings Banks had, for the first time since they were opened, fallen during the year. The fall was attributed to the existence of Post Office Savings Banks side by side with the District Banks, and the present Report proves that this was correct. The balance in the District and Post Office Savings Banks together increased during the year by about 46 lakhs, the amounts being—

	1882-83. Lakhs.	1883-84. Lakhs.
Post Office	28	75
District	75½	74½
TOTAL	103½	149½

7. As in the Resolution on the report for 1882-83, some comparative figures relating to the two sets of banks are given below.

The average amount held by each depositor was ₹330 in the District Banks against ₹89 in Post Office Banks.

The table below shows the professions of depositors :—

SAVINGS BANK.	CLASS I. PROFESSIONAL.		Class II. Domestic.	Class III. Commercial.	Class IV. Agricultural.	Class V. Industrial.	Class VI. Indefinite.	TOTAL.
	A. Fixed income.	B. Variable income.						
Post Office	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
District	30,545 10,369	5,834 1,174	13,231 3,642	6,617 842	1,741 179	1,406 1,275	25,474 5,180	84,848 22,661

The number of commercial and agricultural depositors is very small, the proportion of these two classes is higher in the Post Office Savings Banks.

The numbers of Native and of European or Eurasian depositors are compared in the following table :—

SAVINGS BANKS.	NATIVE.			EUROPEAN AND EURASIAN.		
	Number of accounts.	Percentage of total number.	Amount.	Number of accounts.	Percentage of total number.	Amount.
Post Office.	76,438	90.09	R 62,41,388	8,410	9.91	R 12,73,066
District	19,014	83.90	57,36,380	3,647	16.10	17,41,402

8. The number of Post Offices open at the close of the year was 5,879 as against 5,310 at the beginning. The increase of 569, larger than in any previous year, was mainly due to the further extension of the Village Post Office system under which schoolmasters or other non-postal officials are utilised as Postmasters. The system has already enabled the Director General to greatly extend the operations of the Post Office in the interior of districts; and still further extension may be expected.

9. The number of letter-boxes and village postmen also increased during the year, though in a less marked degree, the increases being 490 and 173 respectively, as against 746 and 429 during 1882-83.

10. There was a considerable increase in the total length of the postal lines of communication, which rose from 61,204 to 63,536 miles. The length of sea lines remained unaltered: runners and boat lines increased by 1,670 miles, which represents actual extension of postal facilities: the Railway lines increased by 730 miles, due to the opening of short lengths of railways in several parts of India; while the mail cart horse and camel lines decreased by 68 miles, which is not, however, an actual decrease in postal communication, but is due merely to unimportant changes in the means of communication.

11. The total number of articles, exclusive of money orders, conveyed by the Post Office, was more than 200 millions as against 184 millions in 1882-83, the increase being 16½ millions, or 8.83 per cent., as against 15 millions, or 8.8 per cent. The increase was, as in previous years, largest in the number of post cards, of which over 38 millions were conveyed, the increase being nearly 9 millions, or 29.46 per cent., on 29,844,147, the number conveyed in 1882-83. The following table shows the numbers of other articles conveyed :—

	LETTERS.			Newspapers.	Parcels.	Packets.
	Paid.	Unpaid.	Registered.			
1882-83	103,393,422	28,869,570	3,446,354	14,075,677	1,312,228	3,113,267
1883-84	109,101,237	28,035,651	3,705,585	15,848,586	1,286,261	3,690,828
Percentage of increase	5.52	2.89	7.52	12.60	1.98	18.55
Percentage of decrease	...	...	...	...	...	...

With the exception of the small decrease in parcels, which follows a considerable increase of 13'90 in 1882-83, and which is ascribed to the competition of railways, these figures are all satisfactory; the increase in the number of newspapers and the decrease in that of unpaid letters being especially so. The decrease in the number of parcels occurred in inland parcels only, for the number of foreign parcels increased from 88,684 to 98,296, the foreign parcel post having recovered from the temporary check due to the disturbances in Egypt in 1882-83.

12. A table is given below showing the steady increase since 1872-73 in the operations of the Post Office in the particulars noticed in the four preceding paragraphs:—

YEAR.	Post Offices.	Letter-boxes.	Village post-men.	Distance over which the mails are carried.	Articles passed through the post including money orders.
	No.	No.	No.	Miles.	No.
1872-73	3,006	3,299	...	49,056	93,157,000
1873-74	3,178	3,554	...	54,616	109,235,000
1874-75	3,408	3,938	1,463	55,898	116,119,000
1875-76	3,631	4,447	1,695	57,044	119,470,000
1876-77	3,852	5,454	1,950	58,370	122,541,000
1877-78	4,107	5,574	2,242	57,963	128,836,000
1878-79	4,392	6,167	2,601	57,954	131,899,000
1879-80	4,410	6,426	2,702	58,240	142,977,000
1880-81	4,521	6,720	2,833	58,760	158,666,000
1881-82	4,819	7,190	3,241	59,677	171,804,000
1882-83	5,310	7,936	3,670	61,204	186,620,000
1883-84	5,879	8,426	3,843	63,536	203,340,000

13. The disposal of the articles received for delivery was satisfactory. Of the total 203,340,195, including money orders, 197,362,251, or more than 97 per cent., were delivered to the addressees by the ordinary Post Offices without delay, while 3,551,792 were delivered after being returned undelivered; the remainder being sent to the Dead Letter Offices. Of the numbers of articles, 2,217,418 net, which had to be disposed of through the Dead Letter Offices, 16'13 per cent. were delivered to the addressees, 56'41 per cent. were returned to the senders, and 27'46 per cent. were deposited as dead.

14. The gross receipts from the sale of ordinary postage stamps rose from R46,04,335 to R49,87,927, the popularity of the half anna envelopes continuing to increase. But of this amount the sum of R7,800 was for stamps used on Government service by the Presidency Banks, and more than R25,000 was telegraph revenue realised in postage stamps. The receipts from the sale of service stamps rose from R14,85,066 to R15,64,951. The postage realised in cash rose from R33,77,402 to R35,24,817.

15. The number of inland money orders issued was over 3 millions and the value over 7½ crores, the corresponding figures for 1882-83 being over 2½ millions, and nearly 6½ crores. One hundred and twenty-three new money order offices were opened during the year.

The foreign money order transactions are shown below:—

	ISSUED.		PAID.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
<i>In sterling money.</i>		£		£
1882-83	26,999	117,526	2,974	10,903
1883-84	30,103	125,132	3,622	13,245
<i>In Indian currency.</i>		Rs.		Rs.
1882-83	1,443	1,12,046	9,243	4,73,706
1883-84	1,768	1,54,797	10,545	5,55,897

The increase in the orders in Indian currency occurred mainly in the transactions with Mauritius, due to the direct interchange between that colony and Aden, introduced in 1882.

16. The value of insured letters and parcels was very slightly less than in 1882-83, about $8\frac{1}{2}$ crores, the value of insured parcels having increased and of insured letters diminished.

17. There was a very large increase in the value-payable transactions. The number of articles sent rose from 174,301 to 287,377, and the value from ₹16,86,098 to ₹28,08,873. The popularity of this system is increasing steadily and very rapidly.

18. The number of complaints made by the public was 5,732, nearly the same as in 1882-83. Of these, 2,320 proved groundless, 1,888 were well founded, and in the remainder the result of the inquiries was either indefinite, or is left unstated in the Report. The complaints relating to registered letters, parcels, money orders, and postal notes were 444 in number, in 127 of which the postal establishments were in fault.

19. The cases of dishonesty of Post Office servants were 226 in number in 65 of which departmental punishments were inflicted, and in 161 criminal convictions were obtained.

20. Twenty-four mail robberies occurred during the year, 15 of which took place in British and 9 in foreign territory.

21. The strength of the Postal establishment increased from 34,429 to 35,636.

22. Section X of the Report and Appendices X and XI exhibit the receipts and disbursements of the year. The receipts shown under the head of Post Office in the Finance and Revenue Accounts amount to ₹1,01,87,428, and the expenditure ₹1,23,44,807 compared with ₹97,77,971 and ₹1,19,40,113 in 1882-83. But those accounts include—

- (a) The receipts and payments of bullock train and passenger lines.
- (b) The receipts and payments of the district and political posts which are not under the control of the Postal Department;
- (c) The subsidies paid under the contracts for the conveyance of mails by sea, the amounts of which include consideration for services other than purely Postal service;

while they do not include the following:—

- (d) Cost of stationery.
- (e) The full cost of railway service rendered to the Post Office.
- (f) Cost of printing done for the Post Office at the Government Press.
- (g) Rent for Government buildings occupied by the Post Office.
- (h) Gratuities and pensions.
- (i) Leave allowances paid in England.

23. Excluding the items (a) to (c), and the cost of English stores supplied to the Department, the Director General estimates that there is a net postal revenue of ₹7,19,510 as against ₹5,57,709 in 1882-83; and including the estimated postal share of (c), the items (d) to (i), and the cost of stores, but excluding (a) and (b), he estimates that there is a net postal expenditure of ₹5,39,556 as against ₹7,51,338 in 1882-83.

24. These figures cannot be accepted as exact. The financial position of the Post Office in India is that it is not quite self-supporting. There is a net expenditure which is approximately of the amount, 22 lakhs, shown in the Finance and Revenue Accounts. This net expenditure is justified by the general conveniences afforded to the public and to Government by the Post Office, and it is moreover being gradually diminished in amount.

25. The Report shows that the working of the department and the progress made have been very satisfactory as in previous years.

26. The thanks of Government are due to Mr. Hogg and Mr. James for their successful administration of the Department during the year.

• Mr. Douglas, C.I.S.
Mr. Barton Groves.

27. The work done by the officers* mentioned in the last paragraph of the Report also deserves acknowledgment.

ORDER.—Ordered, that this Resolution be communicated to the Director General of the Post Offices of India, and that the Report and the Resolution be published in the Supplement to the *Gazette of India*.

J. F. FINLAY,

For Secy. to the Govt. of India.

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

OPERATIONS OF THE POST OFFICE OF INDIA

FOR THE YEAR

1883-84.

No. 15537, dated 31st March 1885.

From—A. U. FANSHAWE, ESQ., Offg. Director General of the Post Office of India,
To—The Secy. to the Govt. of India, DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

I have the honor to submit the annual report on the operations of the Post Office of India during the year 1883-84. The submission has had to be delayed, as in the case of the report of last year, until the figures for the Financial Section had been finally accepted by the Comptroller General.

2. Mr. F. R. Hogg was in charge of the Department from the 12th May 1883 to the 20th February 1884, and during his absence Mr. H. E. M. James officiated as Director General.

3. The cost of postal communication by sea with Europe does not strictly

*Communication by sea between India and Europe by means of the
contract services of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam
Navigation Company.*

Year.	Net loss on the Foreign Mail service charged against India.	REMARKS.
	£	
1869-70	73,110	The increase in 1876-77 and following years was caused by the reduction of postage carried out on 1st July 1876, when India entered the Union. The increase in 1879-80 is due to the reduction of postage introduced from 1st April 1879 under the Convention of Paris.
1870-71	69,150	
1871-72	68,110	
1872-73	61,072	
1873-74	54,770	
1874-75	57,170	
1875-76	53,125	
1876-77	66,685	
1877-78	70,749	
1878-79	71,051	
1879-80	88,160	
1880-81	71,051	
1881-82	70,000	
1882-83	70,000	
1883-84	70,000	

fall within the scope of a report on the operations of the Indian Post Office, but for the sake of information an abstract of the charges against India on this account is given in the margin, in accordance with the practice of former years. England and India contribute to the subsidy to the P. & O. Company for carrying the mails between Bombay and Brindisi; the whole of the sea postage realised by each country, and the

remainder of the subsidy is made a charge in equal shares against the two countries.

4. The outward mails by the P. & O. steamers arrived in Bombay before the contract time on 24 occasions during the year under report, and were behind time on 28 occasions. The delay, which was less than 24 hours in 14 instances, was due to quarantine restrictions in Italy and to detentions in the Suez Canal. From October 1883 to February 1884, the transit of the mails across Egypt by railway was entirely suspended, owing to the difficulties regarding quarantine. The homeward mail steamer S. S. *Verona*, with the Bombay mail of the 21st December 1883, was disabled in the Red Sea by the loss

of its propeller, and had to be towed into Suez. The mails were sent on by another steamer.

5. The various steam services for maintaining postal communication, in Indian waters, with the Indian Post Offices in the Persian Gulf and Turkish Arabia and with Ceylon, the Straits, China and Australia, are shown in the table below.

By the British India Steam Navigation Company.

- | | |
|---|--|
| (1) Weekly communication between Calcutta and Rangoon via Chittagong, Akyab, Kyauk-Phyoo, Sandoway, and Bassein. | } No. 1. Under a recent contract with the local Administration, Kyauk-Phyoo is now a weekly port of call throughout the year, and Sandoway a weekly port of call during the fair season. |
| (2) Weekly communication between Calcutta, Rangoon, and Moulmein. | |
| (3) Five-weekly communication between Rangoon, Penang, and intermediate ports; the vessels running in connection with lines Nos. 1 and 4. | |
| (4) Weekly communication between Moulmein and Singapore via Penang and Malacca. | } No. 4. Fortnightly communication only is provided under the contract, the additional trips being performed by the Company on its own account. |
| (5) Fortnightly communication between Madras, Rangoon, and intermediate ports on the north-east coast. | |
| (6) Weekly communication between Calcutta and Bombay, touching at intermediate ports on the Coromandel and Malabar coasts. | |
| (7) Semi-weekly communication between Bombay and Karachi with a weekly continuation to the Persian Gulf. | |
| (8) Fortnightly communication between Aden and Karachi. | } No. 8. Communication once in four weeks only is provided under the contract, the additional trips being performed by the Company on its own account. |
| (9) Fortnightly communication between Rangoon, Tavoy, and Mergui. | |
| (10) Weekly communication between Rangoon and Moulmein. | } Nos. 9 and 10. Under contract with the local Administration. |

By the Asiatic Steam Navigation Company.

- | | |
|--|---|
| (11) Four-weekly communication between Calcutta and Port Blair, with extensions to Camorta, Nancowry, and Rangoon. | } No. 11. This line is under the control of the Military Department, the consideration given being not in the form of subsidy but of guaranteed rates for the transport of Government stores. |
| | |

By the Irrawaddy Flotilla Company.

- | | |
|---|---|
| (12) Weekly communication between Rangoon, Mandalay, and intermediate ports, with a monthly extension to Bhamo. Subsidy Rs. 600 per mensem. | } Nos. 12 to 16. These lines are under the control of the local Administration, the Post Office contributing Rs. 500 per mensem towards the subsidy for No. 13. |
| (13) Semi-weekly communication between Rangoon and Bassein and between Bassein and Henzada. Subsidy Rs. 2,500 per mensem. | |
| (14) Daily communication between Kyethai, Prome, Thyetmyo, and Allanmyo. Subsidy Rs. 2,000 per mensem. | |
| (15) Weekly communication, Thonegwa local (river) service. Subsidy Rs. 800 per mensem. | |
| (16) Dawson's service on the Salween and Domesamee rivers. Subsidy Rs. 1,200 per mensem. | |
| | |

By other Agencies.

- | | |
|---|---|
| (17) By the Burmese Steam Tug Company. Fortnightly communication between Moulmein, Tavoy, and Mergui. Subsidy Rs. 4,000 per mensem for this and for lines Nos. 9 and 10. | } No. 17. Under the control of the local Administration, and works in connection with lines Nos. 9 and 10. |
| (18) By Apear & Co. (of Calcutta), and Jardine, Matheson & Co. (of Hong-Kong). Monthly communication between Calcutta, the Straits, and Hong-Kong, the dates of departure being regulated primarily with reference to the Calcutta opium sales. No subsidy. | |
| (19) By the Euphrates and Tigris Steam Navigation Company. Weekly communication between Busrah and Bagdad. | } No. 19. Under the control of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India, the subsidy is Rs. 300 per mensem. Steamers run in connection with line No. 7. |
| (20) By the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company. Fortnightly communication between Calcutta and Colombo, touching at Madras. | |
| (21) By the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company. Fortnightly communication between Bombay and Colombo. | } Nos. 20 and 21. These are non-contract lines maintained by the Company on its own account in connection with the China and Australian mail services. The Post Office pays by weight for the conveyance of mails forwarded by these non-contract services. |
| | |

NOTE.—Nos. 1 to 8 are under the control of the Indian Post Office, by which a subsidy of Rs. 25,000 per annum is paid.
NOTE.—A service by sea, worked by local native boats is maintained by the Government of Ceylon between Point Callimere on the Indian side and Kankesanthurai on the Ceylon side.

6. The most important event of the year was the working out and carrying into effect of a scheme for utilising the Post Office in extending the operations of the Telegraph Department. The scheme was actually brought into force on the 1st December 1883, from which date all post offices were constituted receiving offices for telegrams. By the end of the year, 55 combined post and telegraph offices had been opened, and 270 postal servants were under training for telegraph work. The results of the amalgamation of the two departments will have to be recorded in future reports.

7. The only other important postal incidents of the year were the establishment of a money order exchange with France with effect from the 1st July 1883, and the introduction of reply post-cards, both for the inland and foreign post, from the 1st February 1884.

8. Mention was made in last year's report of the introduction of India Postal Notes of three fixed denominations, *viz.*, 8 annas, R1, and R2-8. These notes have not hitherto proved popular, and at the close of the year under report it was arranged that they should be delivered and paid by postmen.

Section I.—Post Offices, Letter-Boxes, and Village Postmen.

9. Appendix I gives statistics regarding post offices, letter-boxes, and village postmen for 1883-84, in

	No. at the close of 1882-83.	No. at the close of 1883-84.	Increase.
Post offices	5,310	5,879	569
Letter-boxes	7,936	8,426	490
Village postmen	3,070	3,443	173

comparison with the statistics for the preceding year. There was an increase under each head as shown in the abstract in the margin, but the increase in the number of post offices is the most important, the actual number of new offices being 569 as compared with 491 last year.

Of these 569 new offices 444 were village post offices in the charge of schoolmasters or some other extra-departmental agency. The success of the village post office system has been most marked in the Bombay and Madras Presidencies, but everywhere it has established itself as a living part of the organisation of the post office. The agency is popular with the people, is economical for the department, and in opening up the rural districts of the country a large development of this system may be expected.

Section II.—Postal Lines.

10. Appendix II shows the distance over which mails are carried by the various means of postal communications in use throughout the country, and a summary of comparative results is given in the margin. The length of postal communications by sea is the same as last year, while the length of communications

YEAR.	Railway.	Mail-cart horse and camel lines.	Runners and boats.	Sea.	TOTAL.
	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.
1882-83	9,001	3,648	33,135	14,520	61,204
1883-84	10,621	3,580	34,805	14,520	63,526
Increase	720	...	1,670	...	2,332
Decrease	...	68	...	...	...

by mail-cart and horse and camel posts is 68 miles less than last year. This is due not to any important alterations, but to a number of changes in various parts of the country. The large increase in the length of runners'

lines is mainly due to the general extension of postal communications, but includes 216 miles of communication by steam launch in British Burma. The increase of 730 miles in the length of communications by railway is made up of the following :—

	Miles.
Bengal Central Railway	114
Rewari-Sirsa Railway	140
Mozufferpore-Bettia Railway	77
Nawabganj-Bahraitch Railway	69
Kaunia-Dhubri Railway	55
Amritsar-Dinanagar Railway	51
Rangoon to Pegu Railway	46
Bellary-Hospet Railway	41
Doraha to Rupar Railway	32
Sonarpur to Diamond Harbour Railway	28
Some smaller sections aggregating	79
	<hr/> 732
Deduct distance shown in excess for British Burma in last year's report	2
	<hr/>
TOTAL	730

Section III.—Correspondence.

11. Appendix III contains the general correspondence returns, of which an

(YEAR.)	Letters (including Post cards.)	Newspapers.	Parcels.	Book and Pattern Packets.	TOTAL.
1881-83	165,553,493	14,075,677	1,312,228	3,113,267	184,054,665
1883-84	179,479,626	15,848,586	1,286,261	3,690,828	200,305,301
Increase	13,926,133	1,772,909	...	577,561	16,280,636
Decrease . . . . .	...	...	25,967	...	...
Percentage of increase	8.41	12.60	...	18.55	8.83
" of decrease . . . . .	...	...	1.98	...	...

abstract is given in the margin. There was a total increase of 16½ millions of articles, or 8.83 per cent. as compared with an increase of 15 millions or 8.8 per cent. last year. The increase was common to all

classes of articles except parcels which show a slight falling-off. Book and pattern packets again show the highest proportional increase, though it has fallen from 30.41 last year to 18.55 for the year under report. Letters and post-cards go on increasing in about the same proportion. The percentage of increase was 6.66 in 1881-82, 8.14 in 1882-83, and now stands at 8.41. The increase that was noticed last year in the number of newspapers appears to be constant. The percentage of increase that last year stood at 12.36 is now 12.60. The following figures, showing the growing use of the Post Office for newspapers during the last four years, will be found of interest :—

1880-81	11,942,304
1881-82	12,526,800
1882-83	14,075,677
1883-84	15,848,586

In 1879-80 the newspapers fell off, but since the repeal of the Vernacular Press Act and the introduction in November 1881 of a lower rate of postage for newspapers weighing less than 3 tolas, the numbers have been regularly increasing. Parcels show a decrease of nearly 2 per cent. due to the competition of the railways.

YEAR.	Post-cards.	Letters paid.	Letters unpaid.	Letters registered.	TOTAL.
1882-83	20,844,147	103,393,422	28,869,570	3,446,354	165,553,493
1883-84	28,637,153	109,101,237	28,025,651	3,705,585	179,479,626
Increase	8,793,006	5,707,815	833,919	259,231	13,926,133
Decrease					
Percentage of increase	29.46	5.52		7.52	8.41
Percentage of decrease			2.89		

12. Further particulars regarding letters and post-cards are given in the margin. It will be seen that more than 38 millions of post-cards passed through the Post Office during the year, and that the

increase over the number that passed through the Post Office last year was 8½ millions, or 29.46 per cent. Post-cards were only introduced in July 1879, and the following figures show how they have grown in popularity since then, while the number of paid letters has also gone on steadily increasing:—

	Total number of Post-cards.	Percentage of increase.	Total number of paid letters.	Percentage of increase.
1879-80	7,471,984		87,973,330	
1880-81	14,865,121	98.94	96,075,668	9.21
1881-82	21,953,265	47.68	99,144,325	3.19
1882-83	29,844,147	35.94	103,393,422	4.29
1883-84	38,637,153	29.46	109,101,237	5.52

By far the greater proportion of post-cards are sent by natives of India, and as yet their use does not seem to have interfered with the normal increase in letters. The average rate of increase in the number of paid and unpaid letters taken together for three years previous to 1879, was rather more than 3 per cent., and for the four years since that year it stands about the same. Unpaid letters show a falling-off of nearly 3 per cent.—always a satisfactory sign of the spread of confidence in the Post Office; and finally, registered letters show a percentage of increase of 7.52 as compared with an increase of 6.08 last year.

13. Foreign correspondence is included in the general figures in paragraph 11, but separate statistics are given in the table below:—

	Class.	ESTIMATED AGGREGATE NUMBER.			REMARKS.
		1882-83.	1883-84.	Percentage of increase.	
DESPATCHED FROM INDIA TO THE UNITED KINGDOM.	Letters (including Post-cards) Newspapers Books, &c.	2,717,798 312,418 474,205	2,804,972 344,547 509,394	3.21 10.28 20.07	These figures are based on the actual monthly accounts exchanged between India and the United Kingdom.
RECEIVED IN INDIA FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM.	Letters (including Post-cards) Newspapers Books, &c.	2,644,410 2,380,162 1,846,945	2,721,543 2,543,837 2,091,131	2.02 6.61 13.22	
GRAND TOTAL OF ALL CORRESPONDENCE EXCHANGED WITH THE UNITED KINGDOM.	Letters (including Post-cards) Newspapers Books, &c.	5,362,208 2,698,580 2,321,150	5,526,515 2,888,384 2,660,525	3.06 7.03 14.62	
DESPATCHED FROM INDIA TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES OTHER THAN THE UNITED KINGDOM.	Letters (including Post-cards) Other articles	614,707 209,234	777,737 303,932	26.52 45.26	The numbers shown in the report for 1882-83, as appertaining to that year, were calculated upon statistics taken in May 1881. The figures now given for 1883-84 have been calculated on statistics taken in November 1883.
RECEIVED IN INDIA FROM FOREIGN COUNTRIES OTHER THAN THE UNITED KINGDOM.	Letters (including Post-cards) Other articles	585,818 393,788	616,421 513,603	8.63 30.42	
GRAND TOTAL OF ALL CORRESPONDENCE EXCHANGED WITH FOREIGN COUNTRIES OTHER THAN THE UNITED KINGDOM.	Letters (including Post-cards) Other articles	1,200,525 603,022	1,414,158 817,535	17.79 35.57	

14. Separate statistics regarding foreign parcels will be found in the statement given below :—

PARCEL EXCHANGES.	Total number of Parcels.		Average weight of each Parcel.		Net revenue derived by the Indian Post Office after deduction of customs duty and sums due to the Peninsular and Oriental Company.	
	1882-83.	1883-84.	1882-83.	1883-84.	1882-83.	1883-84.
<i>With United Kingdom.</i>	No.	No.	lbs. ozs.	lbs. ozs.	R	R
To India	59,687	64,882	6 0'62	5 6'86	1,07,493	1,12,203
From India	22,559	25,471	2 14'36	2 13'15	25,353	28,438
TOTAL	82,246	90,353	5 2'84	4 11'10	1,32,846	1,40,641
<i>With Continent of Europe.</i>						
To India	1,318	1,621	6 0'93	6 4'04	2,417	3,106
From India	2,302	2,551	5 10'36	4 12'31	4,112	3,905
TOTAL	3,620	4,172	5 12'75	5 5'53	6,529	7,011
<i>With Aden, Ceylon, China and Straits.</i>						
To India	1,189	1,613	1 15'50	2 0'10	399	397
From India	1,629	2,158	2 15'53	2 14'28	2,689	3,447
TOTAL	2,818	3,771	2 8'77	2 8'21	3,088	3,844
GRAND TOTAL	88,684	98,296	5 1'90	4 10'21	1,42,463	1,51,496

15. Year by year since its establishment in 1873-74, the foreign parcel post

	No. of foreign parcels.
1873-74	21,903
1874-75	25,563
1875-76	35,819
1876-77	45,357
1877-78	59,183
1878-79	69,763
1879-80	73,211
1880-81	80,257
1881-82	88,840
1882-83	88,684
1883-84	98,296

has become more popular, as the figures given in the margin amply testify. Last year, for the first time, its development appeared to have been checked, and this was attributed to the disturbances in Egypt. That it was due to temporary causes is proved by the results

of the year now under report.

16. The disposal of the whole year's work as entered in the table given at paragraph 11 of this report is shown below :—

Sent out for delivery (including 3,034,894 money orders)	203,340,195
Received back undelivered	5,977,944
Balance actually delivered	197,362,251
Sent to Dead Letter Offices	2,416,152
	<u>199,778,403</u>

These figures show that 97 per cent. of the whole number of articles entrusted to the Post Office during the year were delivered, a result which is an improvement on the results of the last two years.

17. Appendix IV contains statistics of the working of the various Dead Letter Offices, of which a summary is given below. The numbers of these offices remained the same as in the preceding year, and there is no very material change in the character of the year's work. The proportion of articles that could not be disposed of was 27·46 per cent., or rather higher than the proportion in the preceding year.

DEAD LETTERS.	NUMBER.		PERCENTAGE.	
	1882-83.	1883-84.	1882-83.	1883-84.
Total number of articles received in Dead Letter Offices	3,074,850	3,179,161		
DEDUCT—	1882-83.	1883-84.		
Articles issued by Dead Letter Offices for delivery to the addressees or senders, and received back again as undeliverable	151,672	153,644		
Articles transferred to other Dead Letter Offices	752,315	808,099		
Net receipts to be disposed of by the Dead Letter Offices	2,170,863	2,217,418	100	100
Articles disposed of by the Dead Letter Offices, less the proportion of articles returned undelivered.	366,523	357,655	16·88	16·13
Articles undisposible and deposited as dead	1,225,734 578,606	1,250,796 608,967	56·46 26·66	56·41 27·46

18. Appendix V contains statistics regarding the sale of postage stamps and embossed envelopes. The popularity of the half-anna envelopes, especially with the native public, has been fully maintained. Last year an increase of nearly four millions over the sales of the preceding year had to be chronicled, and this year an increase of more than four millions over the sales of last year is shown. The total number of half-anna envelopes sold was nearly 51 millions as contrasted with 35½ millions of half-anna postage labels. The comparative value of the different kinds of postage stamps and envelopes sold during the last two years is given in the statement on the next page. Appendix VI contains statistics regarding service postage stamps, and a similar value statement in connection with this appendix is also given.

19. The following statement exhibits the proportion of postal revenue received in cash and stamps during the last decade. The increase in the proportion of cash receipts which began in 1880-81 is still maintained. It is mainly due to the introduction of the money order system in 1879, the commission being realised in cash:—

Proportion of Revenue derived from Postage Stamps and from Cash.

	1874-75.	1875-76.	1876-77.	1877-78.	1878-79.	1879-80.	1880-81.	1881-82.	1882-83.	1883-84.
	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R
Total postage revenue	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Cash	31·23	30·97	30·71	29·33	26·62	24·86	28·74	35·17	36·24	35·64
Proportion derived from ordinary stamps	52·08	52·37	52·29	53·87	57·30	58·76	55·91	49·25	47·76	48·46
Proportion derived from service stamps	16·69	16·66	17·00	16·80	16·08	16·38	15·35	15·58	16·00	15·90

Postage Labels.

Ordinary Postage Labels.	1-anna Post-card.	1-anna Inland Reply Post-card.	1-anna Foreign Post-card.	3-anna Foreign Reply Post-card.	1-anna Envelopes.	1-anna Envelopes.	4-anna Envelopes.	1-anna Labels.	1-anna Labels.	11-anna Labels.	2-anna Labels.	3-anna Labels.	4-anna Labels.	6-anna Labels.	8-anna Labels.	12-anna Labels.	1 Rupee Labels.	Gross Value.	
Value of each kind of Stamps sold. Proportion of each to whole value of Stamps sold.	4,09,450	...	7,061	...	14,56,866	10,515	65,071	10,97,991	12,155	3,36,000	29,575	3,80,246	66,973	4,35,997	24,256	1,15,994	5,768	1,58,017	46,04,335
	889	...	15	...	31'64	29	1'41	29'85	26	7'30	49	8'26	1'45	9'46	53	2'52	13	3'43	100
Value of each kind of Stamps sold. Proportion of each to whole value of Stamps sold.	5,24,165	20,348	7,624	1,048	15,88,414	10,571	65,914	11,14,424	11,721	3,46,331	25,088	4,05,973	81,238	4,62,515	28,231	1,24,615	...	1,68,707	49,87,937
	11'38	44	16	08	34'49	23	1'43	24'20	25	7'59	54	8'82	1'76	10'04	01	3'76	...	3'68	108'23

Service Postage Labels.	1-anna Post-cards.	9-pie Soldiers' Envelopes.	1-anna Labels.	9-pie Labels.	1-anna Labels.	2-anna Labels.	4-anna Labels.	8-anna Labels.	Gross Value.
<div> <div>Value of each kind of Stamps sold.</div> <div>Proportion of each to whole value of Stamps sold.</div> </div>	6,937	2,539	3,17,300	39	7,76,027	1,23,198	1,39,040	1,19,986	14,85,066
	.47	.17	21.37	...	52.25	8.30	9.36	8.08	100
<div> <div>Value of each kind of Stamps sold.</div> <div>Proportion of each to whole value of Stamps sold in previous year.</div> </div>	9,141	2,822	3,43,323	84	8,23,919	1,30,707	1,47,092	1,27,863	15,64,951
	.62	.19	21.77	.01	55.48	8.80	9.60	8.61	105.38

Section IV.—District Post.

20. A comparative statement in detail will be found on the next page showing the income, expenditure, and operations of the district post during the last two years. The district post funds consist of collections from a dāk cess, either standing alone or supplemented by grants from Provincial revenues, and in Bombay and Madras of Provincial grants alone. Their management is now entrusted everywhere to the local Postal authorities subject to the orders of the local Governments. In most cases the amount realised by the cess and received by contributions is spent generally on district posts throughout the circle, but in the Punjab and British Burma the cess is required to be spent in the districts in which it is raised. The total receipts of the year amounted to ₹10,45,823 as compared with ₹10,40,781 last year, the increase being mainly due to additional grants in Assam, the Central Provinces and British Burma. The total expenditure amounted to ₹9,60,713 as compared with ₹9,20,551. The income and expenditure under this head do not correspond with the receipts and charges as shown in the Finance and Revenue Accounts. The only receipts shown in the latter under the head of District Post are a few miscellaneous receipts, while the greater part of the receipts are necessarily shown under other heads. The charges as shown in the Finance and Revenue Accounts include charges in Beluchistan and elsewhere for posts not under the management of the Postal Department, and also charges in British Burma for conveyance of mails at the cost of Provincial funds, which do not come into the Postal accounts.

21. In the administration of the district post, there is not, as a rule, much room for advance as judged by statistics of the number of offices and postmen. The income is mainly stationary, and when post offices and lines are taken over by the Imperial Post as being found to pay their way, fresh offices and lines are opened with the funds set free, but this does not lead to an increase in the number of offices supported from the district post. In the year under review there was an increase of 51 in the number of post offices, of 85 in the number of postmen, of 135 in the number of letter-boxes, and of 830 miles in the length of postal lines. This was due to a small extent to development in Assam, but mainly to a large extension of the district post system in British Burma, where several new districts were brought within the scope of its operations, and, as already noticed, additional funds were made available by the local Administration. The number of articles posted at district post offices was 224,173 in excess of the number posted in the previous year, and the number sent to these offices for delivery was 264,890 in excess of the number in the previous year. This is a great advance on the results of the preceding year.

District Post.

NAMES OF POSTAL CIRCLES.	Number of District Post Offices and Receiving Offices.	Number of District Post Village Postmen and Postmen.	Number of District Post Letter-Boxes.	Distance in miles of District Post Lines.	Local Com.	Grant from Imperial or Provincial Revenue.	Expenditure.	Articles received from the Imperial and District Posts for delivery by the District Post.	Articles posted in the District Post for despatch to the Imperial or District Post.	Articles returned by the District to the Imperial Post undelivered.	Percentage of those returned on the total number received for delivery by the District Post.
Rengal	159	6	205	7,168	R 205,220	R	179,538	No. 812,616	No. 740,233	31,253	3.85
Madras	156	6	247	7,067	109,108	...	182,467	867,872	770,877	30,325	3.49
Bombay	29	799	667	2,912	...	120,262	111,353	1,607,218	522,617	96,725	5.70
N.W. Provinces	30	846	662	2,995	...	120,024	112,776	1,589,554	520,446	86,663	5.45
Punjab	1	504	444	111	...	86,464	86,158	953,931	247,064	51,200	5.37
British Burma	2	502	438	99	...	86,964	87,329	1,053,187	338,143	51,294	4.87
Central Provinces	282	442	62	6,481	149,510	...	148,185	833,374	722,568	50,268	6.03
Oudh	276	439	69	6,504	149,443	45,000	111,174(a)	935,617	804,553	52,560	5.62
Rajputana	21	371	45	4,635	86,433	45,000	110,642(a)	66,645	57,543	2,571	4.24
Assam	21	373	45	4,611	87,517	45,000	110,642(a)	66,247	59,509	2,732	4.12
Behar	55	20	185	2,664	83,000	...	30,005	78,879	83,447	9,576	12.14
Eastern Bengal	96	50	64	2,722(c)	37,864	15,000	56,429	137,986	245,603	26,440	16.53
	43	81	66	2,957(c)	38,844	19,000	56,982	308,605	256,495	25,665	9.08
	43	249	100	1,278	36,400	...	34,927	200,022	157,892	8,703	8.31
	45	249	101	1,278	35,584	...	35,396	170,411	131,397	8,264	4.85
	7	10	2	143	789	3,820	4,365	18,356	17,105	896	4.88
	38	11	2	899(b)	15,885	2,022(c)	17,583	24,284	17,700	1,291	5.32
	45	22	2	1,067(b)	18,621	3,368(c)	21,414	83,693	47,132	5,205	8.08
	82	1	54	3,349	94,250	...	87,334	379,701	59,512	5,897	7.05
	86	...	54	3,394	93,236	...	90,112	446,553	349,589	26,777	6.92
	31	...	10	1,567	61,221	...	54,385(d)	220,834	383,853	34,004	7.61
	29	...	8	1,570	61,595	...	54,616(d)	192,177	196,635	12,675	5.74
TOTAL	791	2,493	1,744	33,519	767,513	273,268	920,551	5,611,356	3,308,394	321,789	5.73
	842	2,578	1,879	34,349	767,647	278,176	960,713	5,876,246	3,622,567	331,779	5.65

(a) Includes Rs. 18,468 the amount of annual subsidy for the Dera Ismail Khan and Chichawani hill cart line.

(b) These are dry season distances; during the rains these lines are increased in length.

(c) Grant from Local Improvement Fund.

(d) Includes contributions from Frontier Police Fund, Rs. 28, in 1882-83 and Rs. 24,900 in 1883-84, and contributions by Maharajah of Agartala Rs. 80 in 1882-83, and Rs. 20 in 1883-84.

(e) Includes lines, paid from the revenues of Feudatory States, of 505 miles in length in 1882-83 and 701 miles in length in 1883-84.

Section V.—Money Orders.

22. An abstract is given in the margin of the Inland money order transactions since 1879-80,

INLAND MONEY ORDERS.	Total number of money orders issued.	Total value of money orders issued.	Commission realised.
	No.	R	R
During the last quarter of the year 1879-80, being the commencement of the business .	232,639	72,48,208	84,901
During the year 1880-81	1,604,174	4,57,08,580	5,35,976
During the year 1881-82	2,157,796	5,73,32,027	6,79,073
During the year 1882-83	2,565,904	6,46,84,183	7,70,958
During the year 1883-84	2,024,894	7,31,24,179	8,84,925
Percentage of increase over the year 1882-83 .	18.28	13.05	14.78

the year in which the Post Office first undertook this class of business. The first complete year was 1880-81, and this was followed, with the general development of the system, by a very

large increase of not less than 34.51 per cent. in the number of money orders sent through the Post Office. Since then there has been a steady advance both in the number and value of money orders. In last year's report an increase of 18.91 per cent. in the number and of 12.82 per cent. in the value of money orders was shown, while the figures for the present year show an increase of 18.28 in the number and of 13.05 in the value. The average value of each money order was Rs. 24-1-6 and a sum of more than 7½ crores of rupees was remitted through the Post Office as compared with a sum of 6½ crores of rupees last year. The aggregate commission realised was Rs. 8,84,925 as compared with Rs. 7,70,958, showing an increase of more than a lac. There were 123 more money order offices than during the preceding year.

23. The statement below shows the Inland money order transactions in the various Postal circles. The largest issues and the largest payments were in Bengal. In the North-Western Provinces, Oudh and Behar, as might have been expected, the payments were largely in excess of the issues, owing to the numerous remittances to their homes from the large emigrant population from those provinces :—

Inland Money Order transactions for each Postal Circle.

POSTAL CIRCLES.	ISSUES DURING 1883-84.		PAYMENTS DURING 1883-84.	
	Number of applications.	Value of applications.	Number of Money Orders.	Value of Money Orders.
		R a.		R a.
Bengal	681,946	1,38,79,731 0	610,707	1,45,52,283 15
North-Western Provinces	390,593	79,88,822 5	524,498	1,24,98,894 9
Madras	415,299	89,84,922 12	387,530	93,09,235 14
Bombay	311,554	85,09,274 1	315,785	94,99,417 4
Punjab	266,588	60,89,154 1	242,988	71,72,211 5
Behar	200,923	41,73,727 2	230,825	46,96,967 3
Eastern Bengal	124,403	43,11,753 8	114,992	31,94,303 1
Oudh	86,602	19,00,979 2	221,558	45,52,595 11
Central Provinces	148,995	44,48,378 1	55,709	15,93,869 9
Rajputana	71,809	20,37,032 11	52,015	22,02,515 14
British Burma	86,549	34,57,401 4	15,712	7,05,693 9
Assam	66,821	25,95,184 14	31,296	11,91,731 3
Central India	87,643	26,70,437 11	22,752	8,92,596 5
Sind	63,169	20,68,380 9	23,206	8,03,431 15
Total for the year 1883-84	3,034,894	7,31,24,179 1	2,849,573	7,28,65,747 5
Total for the year 1882-83	2,565,904	6,46,84,182 12	2,422,001	6,45,23,438 1
Increase	468,990	84,39,996 5	427,572	83,42,309 4

24. Foreign money order exchanges are divided into two classes, those in which the amounts of the orders are expressed in sterling and those in

which they are expressed in rupees. One new exchange of the first class was established with France during the year under report, with effect from the 1st July 1883. A comparative statement of Foreign money order transactions of the first class is given below. The most important exchange of course, is with the United Kingdom, including for money order purposes, Canada and the United States. The number of orders issued by India on the United Kingdom was 27,794, for an aggregate value of £116,118-16-9, as compared with 24,916, last year, of an aggregate value of £109,832-9-10. The only other exchange of any importance is the exchange with Germany. The number of orders issued by India, 1,224, was somewhat smaller than last year, while the number of orders received from Germany was 190 as compared with 159 last year. Only 16 money orders were received from France during the nine months the exchange was in force, but 216, of an aggregate value of £674-8-5 were drawn in India on France:—

Foreign Money Order transactions in Sterling Money.

	1882-83.				1883-84.			
	ORDERS ISSUED BY INDIA.		ORDERS PAID IN INDIA.		ORDERS ISSUED BY INDIA.		ORDERS PAID IN INDIA.	
	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.
		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.
United Kingdom (including Canada and United States of America)	24,916	109,832 9 10	2,629	8,576 10 10	27,794	116,118 16 9	1,224	11,026 2 11
Germany	1,272	3,671 5 1	159	1,298 13 6	1,224	3,061 15 8	190	1,366 3 11
Italy	218	1,575 7 9	30	216 11 5	279	1,529 11 5	16	105 0 11
France	...	...	...	...	216	674 8 5	16	56 8 9
Switzerland	276	606 17 9	9	122 9 11	251	682 3 10	4	6 16 0
Denmark	50	351 4 3	...	...	42	452 3 7	5	19 4 5
Netherlands	18	56 15 0	10	62 0 0	18	53 14 7	12	53 8 8
Victoria	123	381 13 8	51	211 13 7	150	802 2 2	70	341 19 7
New South Wales	56	300 3 0	36	154 15 11	56	330 13 0	42	143 11 0
South Australia	28	197 11 2	15	84 1 6	31	223 10 0	9	41 16 0
Tasmania	27	224 9 11	11	39 14 0	27	189 15 4	13	29 3 6
Queensland	17	57 12 7	10	31 4 0	10	53 7 0	10	42 13 6
West Australia	6	70 8 6	14	105 10 6	5	60 0 0	3	13 0 6
TOTAL	26,999	117,525 18 6	2,974	10,903 5 8	30,103	125,132 1 9	3,622	13,245 9 8
Percentage of increase	...	...	...	...	11.50	6.47	21.79	21.48
Average amount of each money order	...	4 7 0	...	3 13 4	...	4 3 1	...	3 13 1

Average rate of exchange

1882-83. 1883-84.
s. d. f. s. d. f.
1 7 2.48 1 7 1.2

25. A further statement is appended, showing the transactions of the Foreign money order exchanges in Indian currency. The most remarkable feature of the return is the increase in the money orders sent to and from Mauritius. This is mainly due to the direct exchange of orders between Aden and Mauritius which was established in 1882:—

Foreign Money Order transactions in Indian Currency.

	1882-83.				1883-84.			
	ORDERS ISSUED BY INDIA.		ORDERS PAID IN INDIA.		ORDERS ISSUED BY INDIA.		ORDERS PAID IN INDIA.	
	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.	No.	Amount.
		R s. p.		R s. p.		R s. p.		R s. p.
Ceylon	853	37,334 1 0	7,954	4,00,582 12 0	845	30,559 15 0	8,758	4,40,945 15 0
Mauritius	494	71,088 2 0	262	11,951 0 0	700	1,16,030 10 0	436	23,419 1 0
Straits Settlements	69	2,627 10 0	809	43,126 14 0	83	3,761 7 0	1,086	66,451 5 0
China and Japan	27	996 2 0	218	18,045 2 0	50	4,445 4 0	265	25,080 5 0
TOTAL	1,443	1,18,045 15 0	9,243	4,73,705 12 0	1,768	1,54,797 4 0	10,545	5,55,896 10 0
Percentage of Increase	...	...	...	...	22.52	36.15	14.09	17.35
Average amount of each money order	...	77 10 0	...	51 4 0	...	87 9 0	...	58 11 0

26. The statement below shows the number and value of Inland and Foreign money orders that were forfeited under the rules, during the year. The amount that actually escheated to the State was R6,450-15, as compared with R7,143-2 last year:—

Money Orders Forfeited.

Balance out- standing in the Forfeit- ed Register on the 31st March 1883.		Forfeited during the year.		TOTAL.		FORFEITED ORDERS REPAYED, RENEWED AND LAPSED TO THE STATE DURING THE YEAR 1883-84.										Balance out- standing in the Forfeit- ed Register on the 31st March 1884.									
						Repaid.		Renewed.			Lapsed to the State.		TOTAL.												
No.	Value.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.	Penal- ties.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.	No.	Value.									
	<i>R</i>	<i>a.</i>		<i>R</i>	<i>a.</i>		<i>R</i>	<i>a.</i>		<i>R</i>	<i>a.</i>		<i>R</i>	<i>a.</i>		<i>R</i>	<i>a.</i>								
1,388	13,339	14	2,101	26,825	15	3,489	40,165	13	337	10,507	15	309	9,990	1	167	0	1,167	6,430	15	1,903	27,115	15	1,586	13,049	14

27. The whole money order transactions, whether Inland or Foreign, are exhibited in the appended table. The transactions in sterling, under the head of Foreign money order exchanges, are shown in Indian currency at the rate of exchange in which the orders were received or paid:—

Aggregate Money Order transactions, both Inland and Foreign.

Money Orders, both Inland and Foreign, for the year 1883-84.	ISSUES.			PAYMENTS.	
	Number of applications.	Value of applications.	Commission.	Number of money orders.	Value of money orders.
		R a.	R a.		R a.
Inland	3,034,894	7,31,24,179 1	8,84,924 12	2,849,573	7,28,65,747 5
Foreign transactions in sterling money at prevailing rate of exchange	30,103	15,57,729 15	19,281 4	3,622	1,64,794 1
Foreign transactions in Indian currency	1,768	1,54,797 4	1,618 6	10,545	5,55,896 10
TOTAL	3,066,765	7,48,36,706 4	9,05,824 6	2,863,740	7,35,86,438 0
Total for the year 1882-83	2,594,346	6,62,31,337 13	8,00,251 0	2,434,218	6,51,30,936 13
Increase	472,419	86,05,368 7	1,05,573 6	429,522	84,55,501 3
Percentage of increase	18'21	12'99	13'19	17'65	12'98

28. India Postal Notes of three fixed values were introduced on the 1st

YEAR.	NUMBER OF NOTES SOLD.			TOTAL VALUE OF NOTES SOLD.
	Of the value of annas 8.	Of the value of R 1.	Of the value of R 2-8.	
1882-83, from 1st January 1883	7,044	14,827	8,602	40,520
1883-84	30,910	62,806	27,807	1,47,577

January 1883. The fixed values are R2-8, R1, and annas 8. As they were only available during one quarter of last year, the present report furnishes the first evidence of a year's results. It will be seen from the abstract given in the margin, that Postal Notes of the aggregate value of

R1,47,577-8 were sold, but the scheme has not commanded much popularity.

Section VI.—Post Office Savings Banks.

29. The year under report was the second year of the existence of Post Office Savings Banks, and Statement A, on page 15, shows that a great deal was accomplished during the year in the way of extending their operations, though much still remains to be done before the facilities for thrift offered by the far-spreading agency of the Post Office can be said to have been understood by some of the classes for whose benefit the system was mainly intended. Special pains were taken, particularly in the Bombay circle to which the Savings Bank system was extended for the first time on the 1st May 1883, to make the object and existence of the institution widely known among the native community. At the end of March 1883, the number of accounts open was 39,121 with a balance of deposits of R27,96,796-3-2. At the end of March 1884 the number of accounts was 84,848 with a balance of R75,14,454-11-6. The number of accounts, therefore, was more than doubled, while the amount in deposit

was nearly trebled. Of this increase the Bombay circle accounted for 11,170 accounts with a balance at the depositors' credit of ₹13,45,388-7-3, but there was an increase of 34,557 accounts and of more than thirty-three lacs due to the expansion of the system in the provinces in which it had been in force during the preceding year. There were more depositors in the North-Western Provinces than in any other part of India, the great majority of whom were depositors of small sums, the average balance at the credit of each account being ₹47.43 only. The next lowest average balance was ₹71.97 in Madras. The figures for one year for Bombay show a greater balance of deposits than during two years in Madras, the North-Western Provinces and the Punjab.

30. Statement B, on the opposite page, shows depositors classified as Natives of India and Europeans and Eurasians. The number of accounts belonging to Natives of India at the end of March 1883 was 35,623 with a total balance at their credit of ₹23,02,672-7-11. At the end of March 1884, the total number was 76,438 with a balance of ₹62,41,388-4. The number of accounts standing in the names of Europeans and Eurasians was 3,498 at the end of March 1883, and had risen to 8,410 at the end of March 1884. The balance of deposits at the same date stood at ₹12,73,066-7-6, as compared with ₹4,94,123-11-3 at the end of the preceding year. It will be noticed that by far the largest number of European and Eurasian depositors is in the Madras Presidency, and that the next largest number is in the Punjab. The largest number in proportion to Native depositors will be found in British Burma, where there were 555 European and Eurasian depositors as compared with 742 Native depositors. The explanation of this is to be found in the fact that Postal administration in British Burma is still backward, though it has been making great strides of late, and the benefits of the Savings Banks are as yet but little known away from the larger towns.

31. A further statement shows the depositors classified according to their professions or occupations. The agricultural classes are hardly represented except in the North-Western Provinces, where it was to be anticipated, from the number of small accounts already referred to, that the Savings Banks had been more largely taken advantage of by the unprofessional and poorer classes of the community. The large entries under the head of Indefinite are not very satisfactory :—

Statement showing the Number of Depositors in each Postal Circle, classified according to professions, during 1882-83 and 1883-84.

POSTAL CIRCLES.	CLASS I.—PROFESSIONAL.		CLASS II. Domestic.	CLASS III. Commer- cial.	CLASS IV. Agricul- tural.	CLASS V. Industrial.	CLASS VI. Indefinite.	TOTAL
	A. Having fixed income.	B. Having variable income.						
Bengal	5,929	1,661	1,906	924	224	165	6,379	17,188
Madras	4,389	898	1,231	511	311	215	2,818	10,373
Bombay	4,900	516	1,285	979	66	158	3,266	11,170
North-Western Provinces	5,244	942	3,190	2,652	697	382	6,325	19,432
Punjab	2,700	452	1,737	579	112	203	1,469	7,252
Central Provinces	1,631	266	1,243	403	67	106	1,106	4,822
Oudh	987	115	524	94	30	15	518	2,283
Behar	1,214	240	421	118	66	24	1,006	3,089
Eastern Bengal	820	275	204	50	75	6	835	2,265
Rajputana	415	26	151	35	1	10	217	855
Central India	265	45	156	21	1	7	230	725
British Burma	410	91	449	18	...	37	292	1,297
Assam	585	157	206	38	85	44	455	1,570
Sind	1,056	150	528	195	0	34	558	2,527
TOTAL	30,545	5,834	13,231	6,617	1,741	1,406	25,474	84,848
TOTAL OF 1882-83	14,904	2,143	7,509	2,912	904	665	10,084	39,121
Increase in 1883-84	15,641	3,691	5,722	3,705	837	741	15,390	45,727
Percentage of increase	104.94	172.24	76.20	127.23	92.59	111.43	152.62	116.89

A.
Statement showing Post Office Savings Bank transactions during 1883-84 compared with 1882-83.

Names of Circles.	Number of Head Banks.	Number of Sub-Banks.	NUMBER OF ACCOUNTS.				Opening Balance.	Opening Balance during the year.	Closed during the year.	Balance.	Opening Balance.		Deposits.	Interest.		TOTAL.		Withdrawals.		Balances.	Average of depositors per Bank.	Average Balance in each Bank.	Average Balance at credit of each depositor.				
			R	a.	p.	R					a.	p.		R	a.	p.	R	a.	p.								
Bengal	41	957	8,736	12,267	3,815	17,188	7,48,386	13	3	22,01,848	7	5	42,725	13	11	29,02,091	2	7	13,26,506	11	0	16,66,454	7	7	419 12	40,645 23	96 95
Madras	32	747	4,416	7,926	1,979	10,373	2,66,741	5	3	10,61,765	9	11	18,242	8	6	13,40,749	7	8	594,102	9	1	7,46,746	14	7	324 16	23,332 72	71 97
Bombay	29	866	12,817	19,432	1,647	11,170	20,20,161	7	1	20,20,161	7	1	28,051	12	9	20,49,113	3	10	7,03,724	12	7	13,45,388	7	3	354 12	46,392 68	126 44
North-Western Provinces	40	866	15,055	19,432	3,924	19,432	12,36,401	6	9	12,36,401	14	4	23,512	15	0	17,00,008	2	0	7,79,220	7	10	9,21,717	10	6	485 80	23,423 94	47 43
Punjab	36	497	6,556	4,620	3,924	7,252	4,15,977	6	9	4,13,222	11	7	23,163	4	8	15,02,758	7	0	7,11,696	3	3	8,51,062	6	9	201 44	23,640 62	117 15
Central Provinces	26	243	3,182	3,686	1,446	4,832	1,03,538	4	5	4,13,222	11	7	23,163	4	8	15,02,758	7	0	7,11,696	3	3	8,51,062	6	9	201 44	23,640 62	117 15
Odisha	12	206	1,597	1,487	711	2,283	1,03,538	4	5	4,13,222	11	7	23,163	4	8	15,02,758	7	0	7,11,696	3	3	8,51,062	6	9	201 44	23,640 62	117 15
Behar	13	178	2,170	2,103	1,184	3,089	2,13,656	9	9	3,04,035	13	5	5,055	18	8	4,24,518	3	8	1,91,530	4	4	2,32,087	15	4	185 46	13,734 84	74 95
Eastern Bengal	10	192	1,341	1,632	768	2,265	1,49,519	12	3	3,34,072	7	5	10,166	9	4	7,23,467	10	6	3,61,943	6	4	3,64,535	2	2	237 62	19,415 66	102 03
Rajputana	7	84	400	774	328	855	39,038	13	3	1,61,138	15	5	2,634	15	3	2,05,232	11	7	1,07,682	13	1	1,08,146	10	10	122 14	27,641 64	116 71
Central India	9	63	366	722	357	725	51,082	11	2	2,45,773	4	11	2,790	1	0	3,14,888	1	1	1,05,358	10	11	1,09,361	6	2	86 55	12,449 59	150 84
British Burma	6	32	649	1,265	558	1,297	75,682	6	9	2,45,773	15	9	4,119	6	0	2,14,888	1	1	1,05,358	10	11	1,09,361	6	2	86 55	12,449 59	150 84
Assam	12	140	979	1,265	614	1,570	82,288	5	0	2,47,843	12	10	4,960	6	5	3,44,542	8	3	1,58,855	7	11	1,75,637	6	4	81 06	10,395 96	127 13
Sind	6	59	775	3,421	869	2,522	1,05,568	11	9	3,25,749	6	2	3,734	14	3	3,40,051	0	8	1,41,991	2	3	1,58,039	14	5	421 17	33,010 60	131 90
TOTAL	289	4,910	39,121	68,121	23,394	84,848	27,66,796	3	2	1,03,57,504	1	2	1,82,217	0	4	1,33,47,517	4	8	58,27,002	9	2	75,14,454	11	6	...	...	78 37
TOTAL OF 1882-83	252	3,096	...	47,287	8,166	39,121	...	...	...	43,53,559	14	2	49,020	1	11	44,02,680	0	1	16,05,783	12	11	27,66,796	3	2	...	...	...
Increase in 1883-84	37	924	39,121	21,834	15,228	45,727	27,66,796	3	2	60,03,944	3	0	1,38,196	14	5	39,38,037	4	7	42,21,278	12	3	47,17,638	8	4	...	...	...
Percentage of increase	14 68	2,118	...	46 17	186 48	116 89	...	...	...	137 91	...	...	28 99	...	...	203 14	...	...	262 88	...	...	168 68	...	...	...	...	...

B.
Statement showing the number of depositors in each Postal circle classified as Natives and Eurasians or Europeans or Eurasians, during 1883-84.

Names of Circles.	NATIVE DEPOSITORS, INCLUSIVE OF LOCAL INSTITUTIONS.				EUROPEAN AND EURASIAN DEPOSITORS, INCLUSIVE OF ACCOUNTS OF LOCAL INSTITUTIONS.				TOTAL.			
	Number of accounts.	Balance of deposits.	Amount of interest.	Number of accounts.	Balance of deposits.	Amount of interest.	Number of accounts.	Balance of deposits.	Amount of interest.	Number of accounts.	Balance of deposits.	Amount of interest.
Bengal	16,187	15,30,246	39,337	1,001	1,36,208	3,388	17,188	16,66,454	3,388	17,188	16,66,454	42,725
Madras	8,644	5,66,106	14,205	1,759	1,80,540	3,446	10,373	7,46,746	3,446	10,373	7,46,746	18,242
Bombay	10,168	12,00,740	26,192	1,902	1,44,648	2,750	11,700	13,45,388	2,750	11,700	13,45,388	28,051
North-Western Provinces	18,498	7,84,042	19,983	934	1,37,675	3,529	19,432	9,21,717	3,529	19,432	9,21,717	23,512
Punjab	6,077	5,88,115	15,835	1,175	2,62,947	7,327	7,352	8,51,062	7,327	7,352	8,51,062	23,163
Central Provinces	4,200	2,71,136	9,349	532	85,149	258	4,832	3,57,105	258	4,832	3,57,105	9,607
Odisha	2,023	1,03,461	9,349	260	39,526	1,090	2,283	2,32,087	1,090	2,283	2,32,087	5,055
Behar	2,799	3,13,042	7,111	299	47,482	1,372	3,189	3,64,535	1,372	3,189	3,64,535	7,251
Eastern Bengal	2,216	2,71,515	7,108	40	4,090	142	2,256	2,70,416	142	2,256	2,70,416	7,251
Rajputana	628	69,724	1,644	227	38,422	990	855	1,08,146	990	855	1,08,146	2,634
Central India	548	67,507	1,726	177	41,763	1,633	735	1,09,361	1,633	735	1,09,361	2,634
British Burma	742	87,587	3,032	555	77,355	1,863	1,297	1,64,893	1,863	1,297	1,64,893	4,110
Assam	1,414	1,51,124	3,755	156	24,562	668	1,570	1,75,637	668	1,570	1,75,637	4,960
Sindh	2,213	1,46,946	2,771	314	51,113	963	2,527	1,58,039	963	2,527	1,58,039	3,734
TOTAL	76,438	67,41,388	1,59,615	8,410	12,73,066	27,601	84,848	75,14,454	27,601	84,848	75,14,454	1,82,217
INCREASE IN 1883-84	35,623	23,07,672	49,423	3,498	4,94,123	11,121	39,121	27,66,796	11,121	39,121	27,66,796	47,17,638
Percentage of increase	46 815	30,38,715	7,78,042	4,912	7,78,042	157 04	45,727	47,17,638	157 04	45,727	47,17,638	168 68
	114 57	17 105	...	140 43	...	...	116 89	168 68	...	116 89	168 68	...

32. Last year a sum of R8,800 was invested in Government Promissory Notes on behalf of depositors. The amount invested during the year under report was R1,78,800. Of this sum R63,200 were invested in the Bengal circle and R31,000 in Behar, while the amount invested in Madras was R3,000 only the same as in Assam.

Section VII.—Insurance and Value-Payable System.

33. The table given in the margin shows the extent to which the insurance

YEAR.	VALUE INSURED.			Insurance Fees.
	Letters.	Parcels.	Total.	
	R	R	R	R
1877-78, last quarter being the commencement of the system	6,66,320	18,60,191	25,26,511	13,230
1878-79	89,71,775	2,81,21,210	3,70,92,984	1,23,556
1879-80	1,03,35,058	5,34,34,161	6,37,69,219	1,67,790
1880-81	1,57,33,428	6,30,26,524	7,87,59,952	2,01,046
1881-82	1,79,69,808	5,85,53,413	7,65,23,221	1,90,980
1882-83	2,30,67,342	5,95,70,924	8,26,38,266	1,99,841
1883-84	2,21,14,808	6,01,04,120	8,22,18,928	2,06,839
Percentage of increase as compared with 1882-83	.....	1'40	.....	3'50
Percentage of decrease as compared with 1882-83	4'12	.....	0'13	.....

system has been used by the public since its first introduction. As compared with the results of last year, there was a falling-off in the value of letters insured and an increase in the value of parcels insured. The actual

income realised by insurance fees was R2,06,839 as compared with R1,99,841 last year, or an increase of 3½ per cent.

34. The total value of insured articles was 8½ crores of rupees, and the

	1882-83.	1883-84.
	R s. p.	R s. p.
Losses by accident or by departmental fraud or neglect	11,185 11 1	12,021 4 0
Losses by highway robbery in British Territory	420 0 0	186 0 0
Losses by highway robbery in Native States	.....	3,6-1 5 1
Value of property recovered	11,605 11 1 4,818 0 0	15,898 9 1 4,516 14 0
Claims not preferred or lapsed	6,787 11 1 511 2 0	11 81 11 1 20 0 0
TOTAL	6,276 9 1	11,351 11 1

amount which the Post Office had to make good, owing to losses, was R11,351-11-1, as shown in the margin. This sum, small enough in itself as compared with the enormous amount of responsibility involved, was larger than last year, chiefly owing

to several losses by highway robbery in Native States.

35. The table in the margin shows the value-payable transactions since the

	Number of articles sent under the Value-payable system.	Value declared for realisation.	Commission.
		R	R
1877-78 (from the commencement of the system in December 1877) four months	413	6,721	195
1878-79	7,408	1,32,109	3,942
1879-80	25,589	3,49,857	11,498
1880-81	49,089	5,76,574	13,413
1881-82	99,416	10,80,543	19,836
1882-83	174,301	16,86,098	32,568
1883-84	207,377	28,08,973	53,450
Percentage of increase over the year 1882-83	64'87	66'59	64'12

NOTE.—On the 1st August 1880 the rate of commission for value-payable articles was reduced to the money order scale, being about one-half that of the previous scale. the amount recovered and remitted to the senders was in excess of twenty-eight lacs of rupees.

introduction of the system in December 1877. The system made a great advance in popularity during the year, and is rapidly becoming an important branch of Post Office work. Nearly three lacs of articles were sent value-payable, and

Section VIII.—Miscellaneous.

36. The statement given below shows the transactions relating to the Post Office Security Fund during the year. The subscriptions realised half-yearly at fixed rates from the pay of Postal servants have been credited, since the 1st January 1883, to a separate fund called the New Security Fund, on which interest is allowed at the rate of four per cent. per annum. The accounts of the old *pro forma* fund are kept separately, and all charges are to be taken against the old fund until it is exhausted. The total charges during the year amounted to Rs 19,446, and the balance at the credit of the old fund was Rs 1,97,469. The new fund, including interest, amounted to Rs 53,830. The amount of subscriptions contributed before January 1883 are still returnable, as a matter of favour, to superior servants on their retirement from the service, and the distinction of returnable and non-returnable is, therefore, maintained in the account of the old fund.

Old Fund.

RECEIPTS.		CHARGES.	
	Returnable portion.		
Balance of 1882-83	R 90,346*	Sums decreed against the Fund	R 14,671
		Rateable refunds to subscribers	910
		Cost of establishment	930
		TOTAL charges	16,511
		BALANCE at credit	73,835
		TOTAL returnable portion	90,346
	Non-returnable portion.		
Balance of 1882-83	1,26,569	Sums decreed against the Fund	1,800
		Rewards to persons who gave information leading to important results in Post Office robbery cases	205
		Cost of establishment	930
		TOTAL charges	2,935
		BALANCE at credit	1,23,634
		TOTAL non-returnable portion	1,26,569
	Grand Total.		
Balance of 1882-83	2,16,915*	TOTAL amount charged against the Old Fund	19,446
		BALANCE at credit	1,97,469
			2,16,915

New Fund.

RECEIPTS.	NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES.		AMOUNT OF SUBSCRIPTION.			CHARGES.	Amount.
	First half-year.	Second half-year.	First half-year.	Second half-year.	TOTAL.		
Balance of 1882-83	R	R	R	R	R		R
Interest on above at 4 per cent. from April 1883 to March 1884	...	...	...	...	17,184*		
	...	...	...	...	687	Refund on account of excess realization	239
(a) Pensionable.							
Imperial	8,775	8,999	8,775	8,999	17,774		
District	409	410	409	410	819		
TOTAL	9,184	9,409	9,184	9,409	18,593		
(b) Non-pensionable.							
Imperial	13,867	14,156	6,934	7,078	14,012		
District	3,269	3,439	1,634	1,720	3,354	Closing balance	53,591
TOTAL	17,136	17,595	8,568	8,798	17,366		
Balance of the New Fund on 31st March 1884	...	...	...	...	53,830		53,830

* The amount of the balance of 1882-83 was shown Rs. 1 less in the Old Fund and Rs. 1 in excess in the New Fund.

Complaints.

37. The total number of complaints made by the public was 5,732 as compared with 5,760 last year. With the constant extension of post offices and the undertaking of new branches of work, it is to be expected that complaints should increase; and the department is anxious to encourage reasonable complaints as the best means of showing where the working may be defective and enabling the local authorities to fix responsibility. Of the total number of 5,732 complaints, 2,320 were proved to be groundless, while 1,888 were well founded. In the case of 1,061 complaints as compared with 1,125 last year, no definite results could be ascertained. This is due to the fact that in cases of loss or miscarriage of ordinary letters it is almost impossible to trace them.

38. A separate statement is given below showing the complaints with regard to registered letters, parcels, money orders and postal notes, which, for the first time during the year under report, have given rise to complaints.

	REGISTERED LETTERS.		PARCELS.		MONEY ORDERS.		POSTAL NOTES.		TOTAL.	
	1882-83.	1883-84.	1882-83.	1883-84.	1882-83.	1883-84.	1882-83.	1883-84.	1882-83.	1883-84.
I.—Cases in which enquiry shewed either that no loss occurred or that the loss had not occurred through the fault of Postal officials.	85	90	63	79	...	3	...	15	148	205
II.—Cases in which the Postal establishment was proved to be in fault or in which there was strong ground for believing it to be so.	46	40	26	37	...	44	...	4	72	107
III.—Cases in which no definite conclusion was arrived at.	16	20	17	15	...	5	...	23	33	108
	147	150	106	131	...	52	...	79	253	400

Class I includes 6 insured cases under the head of "Registered Letters" and 20 insured cases under the head of "Parcels."

Class II includes 3 insured cases under the head of "Registered Letters" and 19 insured cases under the head of "Parcels."

Class III includes 1 insured case under the head of "Registered Letters" and 3 insured cases under the head of "Parcels."

39. Appendix No. VIII shows, according to postal circles, the number of

	1882-83.	1883-84.
Number of legal convictions	164	161
Number of cases punished departmentally	69	65
	233	226

cases of dishonesty on the part of servants of the Post Office during the last two years. An abstract of results is given in the margin, from which it will be seen that the total numbers do not vary

much. The greatest number of cases occurred in Assam, where supervision is difficult and good officials are unwilling to serve.

Highway Robberies.

40. A comparative statement of the highway robberies for the last two years

	1883-84.			1882-83.		
	NUMBER OF HIGHWAY ROBBERIES.			Number of Highway Robberies.		
	British Territory.	Foreign Territory.	Total.	British Territory.	Foreign Territory.	Total.
Bengal	4	...	4	1	...	1
Madras	...	...	...	3	...	3
Bombay	1	...	1	...	2	2
N.W. Provinces	2	1	3	7	...	7
Punjab	2	...	2	2	1	3
British Burma	...	...	...	...	...	...
Central Provinces	...	...	...	...	...	...
Oudh	1	...	1	...	...	...
Rajputana	...	...	...	...	...	...
Assam	...	...	...	...	1	1
Behar	1	...	1	...	...	...
Eastern Bengal	...	...	...	1	...	1
Sind	...	...	...	...	...	...
Central India	...	...	...	1	5	6
	11	1	12	15	9	24

in the different postal circles, whether in British or Foreign territory, is given in the margin. The total number was 24, double the number recorded last year, but still the lowest number with the exception of last year and of 1876-77 that has yet been recorded. There were fifteen cases in British territory, seven of which occurred in the North-Western Prov-

inces, and nine in Foreign territory, (as compared with one in the previous year) five of which occurred in the territory under the Central India Agency. It will be noticed that there were no mail robberies in the Central Provinces, Oudh, Assam, Eastern Bengal, Sind, and British Burma. The yearly number of mail robberies in British territory and Foreign territory since the year 1858-59 is shown below:—

YEAR.	British Territory.	Foreign Territory.	TOTAL.
1858-59	...	...	27
1859-60	31	19	50
1860-61	20	33	53
1861-62	25	28	53
1862-63	40	36	76
1863-64	33	28	61
1864-65	29	40	69
1865-66	15	36	51
1866-67	17	26	43
1867-68	11	19	30
1868-69	17	16	33
1869-70	11	20	31
1870-71	11	14	25
1871-72	24	12	36
1872-73	13	12	25
1873-74	21	11	32
1874-75	19	6	25
1875-76	14	12	26
1876-77	12	4	16
1877-78	34	18	52
1878-79	28	18	46
1879-80	26	13	39
1880-81	25	24	49
1881-82	17	14	31
1882-83	11	1	12
1883-84	15	9	24

41. A separate statement is also given showing the actual districts or localities in which each of the mail robberies of the year took place. There

were three in the Jhansi district in the North-Western Provinces, and two in the Coconada district, Madras :—

	BRITISH TERRITORY.			FOREIGN TERRITORY.			
	Name of District.	Number of Robberies.	Number of Attempts.	Name of Native State.	Number of Robberies.	Number of Attempts.	
BENGAL	Hazaribagh	1	...		...	...
		1	...		...	...
MADRAS	{ Bellary Cocanada	1	...		...	...
		2	...		...	...
		3	...		...	...
BOMBAY	{		Gondal	1	...
			Jamnagar	1	...
				2	...
NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES.	{ Jhansi . Bareilly . Saharanpur . Aligarh . Benares .	3	1		
		1
		1
		1
		1
		7	1		
PUNJAB	{ Derajat Hissar Lahore	1	...	Sherain Hills	1	...	
		1	...		...	...
		...	1		...	...
		2	1		1	...	
RAJPUTANA	{ . . . . . . . . .	...	...	Jeypore Meywar	1	...
		...	...		...	1
		...	...		1	1
BEHAR	Patna	1	...		...	...
		1	...		...	...
CENTRAL INDIA	{ Indore	1	...		Sindia's Terri- tory . . .	2	2
			Bhopal . . .	1	...
			Bhadanea and Myana . . .	1	...
			Dharuda . . .	1	...
		1	...			5	2
TOTAL		15	2				

42. The results of dealing with the robbery cases of the year were not very satisfactory. In seven out of the 24 cases prosecutions were instituted, but only one conviction was secured in the Jamnagar case in Bombay. The offenders could not be traced in the other 17 robberies. In three cases the whole stolen mail, and in eight cases the greater part of the stolen mail, was

recovered. In the other 13 cases nothing was found. Two mail-runners lost their lives in these mail robberies, one in British territory in Bengal and one in the Dharuda State of Central India, and eight were wounded or maltreated.

43. Apart from these cases, two other runners lost their lives during the year while in discharge of their duties. One was killed by a leopard while carrying mails between Ranaghat and Santipur in the Nuddea district, and the other was cut down, while carrying the mails at night between Dhoraji and Mangrol, in Kathiawar, by a personal enemy.

44. Appendix IX contains statistics regarding the staff of the Post Office,

POSTAL OFFICIALS.	1882-83.	1883-84.
Superintendents and Inspectors of Post Offices	314	328
Postmasters, Deputy and Sub-Postmasters	4,376	4,714
Extraneous agencies such as Schoolmasters, &c.	603	990
Clerks	4,641	4,870
Postmen and other servants	8,612	9,049
Road establishment	12,034	11,816
Village Postmen	3,649	3,869
	34,429	35,636

of which a summary is given in the margin. With the constant expansion of the Department an increase in establishment is inevitable. The most marked

feature in the return is the increase in the number of village postmasters, of whom there were 990 at the end of the year as compared with 603 at the end of the preceding year. There has been a decrease in the number of road establishment, mainly due to the opening of railways, of which details have already been given in paragraph 10.

45. The total strength of establishment was 35,636, and the fact, reported in paragraph 39 of this report, that with this large body of public servants there were only 226 cases of dishonesty during the year, speaks well for the general probity and the efficiency of supervision in the department.

46. In accordance with the wishes of Government, expressed at the end of 1882, a short summary of the extent to which private presses were used during the year for Post Office work is appended. The total payments made to private presses last year were Rs22,488, and during the year under review they amounted to Rs44,696. The increase is due to the fact that the printing for the Railway Mail Service was done by private agency. In other circles the small amount of printing work required to be done by the heads of circles, and generally vernacular translations of rules and books of reference, was given to private presses.

Section IX.—Non-Postal Branches of the Department.

47. The Government Bullock Train line between Lahore and Ludhiana *via* Ferozepur was closed on the opening of the railway from Raiwind to Gandasgawa on the 1st October 1883. The only carrying agency now in existence is the bullock train between Umballa and Simla with branch lines to Kasauli, Dugshai and Sabathu.

48. The only passenger service directly managed by the Post Office is the line between Umballa and Simla. There was no change during the year under report in the mileage or the conditions under which the line is worked.

Section X.—Financial Results.

49. Appendix X contains details of the receipts and charges of the Post Office for the year under review in comparison with the receipts and charges for the previous year. Appendix XI, which is an abstract of these receipts and charges, has been prepared in a new form so as to show the identity of the receipts and charges under the different heads in the Postal accounts with the figures in the Finance and Revenue Accounts. With regard to the figures for the year under

review there has been no difficulty in doing this, and a special statement of reconciliation has been appended to the form, regarding the charges of 1882-83.

50. The total receipts for the year under the head of purely Postal income amounted to Rs98,16,101 as compared with Rs92,49,489 last year. There was, therefore, an increase of Rs5,66,612 as compared with an increase of Rs4,03,685 last year and an increase of Rs1,70,664 in 1881-82. The total disbursements were Rs90,96,591 as compared with Rs86,91,780 last year. The increase in charges was Rs4,04,811 as compared with an increase of Rs5,91,500 in 1882-83, and an increase of Rs5,44,640 in 1881-82. The net receipts, therefore, in the purely postal departments amounted to Rs7,19,510 as compared with Rs5,57,709 in the preceding year. The receipts in the non-postal branch were Rs1,57,244 as compared with Rs2,71,542 in 1882-83, the falling-off being due to the closing of the Bullock Train line from Lahore to Ludhiana. The table below gives an abstract of receipts and charges under all heads appearing in the regular accounts:—

	1882-83.	1883-84.
PURELY POSTAL SERVICE.	R	R
Receipts, including sale of Service Postage Stamps	92,49,489	98,16,101
Ditto, excluding do. do. do.	77,58,687	82,43,345
Disbursements, including discount on sale of Ordinary Stamps	86,91,780	90,96,591
Net revenue, including sale of Service Postage Stamps	5,57,709	7,19,510
NON-POSTAL BRANCH.		
Bullock Train.		
Receipts	2,71,542	1,57,244
Disbursements	2,35,800	1,54,640
Surplus	35,742	2,604
Passenger Service on Mail-cart lines.		
Receipts and Disbursements	1,88,164	1,68,643
Contract subsidies paid through the Post Office, but employed also largely on general and military considerations.		
Disbursements	7,12,000	7,14,413

These results may be summarised as follows:—

	1882-83.	1883-84.
A net revenue in the purely Postal Department of	5,57,709	7,19,510
A net surplus in the Bullock Train Department of	35,742	2,604

51. An abstract of the charges which do not appear in the regular

	1882-83.	1883-84.
Cost of stationery supplied by the Superintendent of Stationery	1,78,692	1,07,611
Railway service estimated at	5,69,215	5,82,322
Less actual payments	4,48,776	5,00,363
	1,20,439	81,969
English Stores	2,78,710	3,28,870
Value of service rendered to the Post Office by the Government Press	38,878	20,395
Rent of Government Buildings	2,27,839	2,41,564
Estimated Postal share of marine subsidies	2,95,323	2,95,323
Gratuities	4,588	3,859
Leave allowances paid in Great Britain	1,326	13,169
Pensions (being the average of five years)	1,63,391	1,65,875
	13,09,047	12,59,066

accounts of the Post Office Department is given in the margin, from which it will be seen that there was a decrease of Rs 49,981, as compared with the results of last year. If these charges be added to the disbursements shown in the Financial Results the working of the purely Postal Department shows a deficit of Rs5,39,556 in-

stead of a surplus of $\text{₹}7,19,510$. This result is better than that shown in the Report for 1882-83 by $\text{₹}2,11,782$ as shown below :—

	1882-83.	1883-84.	Increase + Decrease—
Charges which are not shown in regular accounts	13,09,047	12,59,066	—49,981
Net Revenue in the purely Postal Department .	5,57,709	7,19,510	+ 1,61,801
Result or deficit	7,51,338	5,39,556	—2,11,782

Section XI.—General Review of Progress.

YEAR.	Comparison of number of Letters and Newspapers (those of 1855- 56 being re- presented by 100).	Comparison of revenue from private correspon- dence (that of 1855-56 being represented by 100).	Comparison of expenditure (that of 1855- 56 being represented by 100).
1855-56, first complete year of new rates	100	100	100
1867-68, thirteenth ditto . . .	207	237	161
1868-69, fourteenth ditto . . .	228	258	182
1869-70, fifteenth ditto . . .	253	246	190
1870-71, sixteenth ditto . . .	257	235	175
1871-72, seventeenth ditto . . .	269	272	173
1872-73, eighteenth ditto . . .	279	279	177
1873-74, nineteenth ditto . . .	328	284	184
1874-75, twentieth ditto . . .	348	305	189
1875-76, twenty-first ditto . . .	352	326	191
1876-77, twenty-second ditto . . .	368	345	196
1877-78, twenty-third ditto . . .	387	378	206
1878-79, twenty-fourth ditto . . .	394	390	222
1879-80, twenty-fifth ditto . . .	428	417	234
1880-81, twenty-sixth ditto . . .	476	452	252
1881-82, twenty-seventh ditto . . .	507	459	270
1882-83, twenty-eighth ditto . . .	550	478	290
1883-84, twenty-ninth ditto . . .	598	508	303

In the margin the usual table is given showing the progress made by the Post Office in the number of letters and newspapers carried, the revenue earned and the expenditure incurred, since the year 1855-56, the first complete year after the introduction of a cheap rate of postage in the year 1854.

Section XII.—Notices of Post Office Officials.

Acknowledgments are due to Mr. E. R. Douglas, C. I. E., Deputy Director General, Post Office, for the success with which he worked out the scheme for amalgamating post offices and telegraph offices, in communication with the Telegraph authorities, and to Mr. Barton Groves, Officiating Deputy Postmaster General of British Burma, for good work done in that province especially in connection with district posts.

average residents entertained during the year 1883-84, and the total number ~~that~~ stood at the end of the official years 1882-83 and 1883-84.

NAMES OF POSTAL CIRCLES.	EXISTING ON THE 1ST MARCH 1883.				OPENED OR ENTERTAINED IN 1883-84.				TOTAL OF 1883-84.				CLOSED OR DISCONTINUED IN 1883-84.				Balance on 31st March 1884.				INCREASE OR DECREASE.			
	Post Offices.	Letter Boxes.	Village Postmen.	No.	Post Offices.	Letter Boxes.	Village Postmen.	No.	Post Offices.	Letter Boxes.	Village Postmen.	No.	Post Offices.	Letter Boxes.	Village Postmen.	No.	Post Offices.	Letter Boxes.	Village Postmen.	No.	Post Offices.	Letter Boxes.	Village Postmen.	No.
Bengal	907	2,667	865	1,024	117	479	100	1,024	24	262	52	913	1,000	2,884	913	Increase 93	Increase 217	No.	Increase 48					
Madras	782	742	439	136	136	41	96	918	11	34	43	415	907	749	415	Decrease 24	Decrease 24	No.	Decrease 24					
Bombay	938	1,491	622	94	94	208	86	1,032	5	158	61	647	1,027	1,541	647	Increase 50	Increase 50	No.	Increase 25					
North-Western Provinces	616	282	4	13	51	50	13	667	6	14	1	16	661	318	16	Increase 25	Increase 25	No.	Increase 25					
Punjab	268	263	301	50	90	51	50	688	43	27	32	319	645	287	319	Increase 25	Increase 25	No.	Increase 25					
British Burma	31	95	4	5	19	15	5	52		4	1	8	52	76	8	Increase 25	Increase 25	No.	Increase 25					
Central Provinces.	288	394	247	19	20	39	17	308	9	31	6	248	269	402	248	Increase 25	Increase 25	No.	Increase 25					
Oudh	196	105	111	7	5	17	11	201	1	8		122	200	114	122	Increase 25	Increase 25	No.	Increase 25					
Rajputana	85	45	47	8	4	1	8	89				55	89	46	55	Increase 25	Increase 25	No.	Increase 25					
Assam	169	106	187	4	18	21	20	167	3	9	6	201	164	118	201	Increase 25	Increase 25	No.	Increase 25					
Behar	36	364	541	20	72	33	45	381	9	40	10	576	372	357	576	Increase 25	Increase 25	No.	Increase 25					
Eastern Bengal	223	481	205	43	43	143	38	266		69	14	249	266	555	249	Increase 25	Increase 25	No.	Increase 25					
Central India	79	68	41	10	10	9	2	89	1	6	5	56	88	71	56	Increase 25	Increase 25	No.	Increase 25					
Sind	100	80	56	14	14	16	5	114	5	8	5	56	109	850	56	Increase 25	Increase 25	No.	Increase 25					
Railway Mail Service		813				219				182						Increase 25	Increase 25	No.	Increase 25					
TOTAL	5,310	7,936	3,670	686	686	1,342	409	5,996	117	832	236	3,843	5,879	8,426	3,843	Increase 569	Increase 490		Increase 173					

Appendix No. II.

Appendix No. II.
Statement showing the distance over which Mails were conveyed by Railway, Mail-cart, Horses, Camels, Runners, Boats and Steamers during the years 1882-83 and 1883-84.

[illegible]

- On the line from Dhuleti to Dibrugarh, under Inspector General, Railway Mail Service.

Appendix

Statement showing the estimated number of Letters, Post-cards, Newspapers, Packets and Parcels received in Assam, Behar, Eastern Bengal, Central India

NAMES OF POSTAL CIRCLES.	BENGAL.		MADRAS.		BOMBAY.		N.W. PROVINCES.		PUNJAB.		BRITISH BURMA.	
	Number given out for delivery.		Number given out for delivery.		Number given out for delivery.		Number given out for delivery.		Number given out for delivery.		Number given out for delivery.	
	1882-83.	1883-84.	1882-83.	1883-84.	1882-83.	1883-84.	1882-83.	1883-84.	1882-83.	1883-84.	1882-83.	1883-84.
Letters paid . . .	14,108,200	14,766,002	10,358,054	10,977,476	21,441,000	22,224,307	10,428,380	11,095,444	10,538,841	11,708,438	1,450,326	1,708,438
.. unpaid . . .	4,981,183	4,794,404	2,830,484	2,871,712	4,321,183	4,322,044	4,004,371	3,997,007	2,610,697	2,442,104	858,063	858,063
.. registered . . .	705,871	715,843	685,880	704,070	457,008	468,077	408,590	424,703	330,501	368,748	27,238	27,238
.. insured . . .	31,396	31,396	22,160	22,160	10,298	10,298	7,743	7,743	6,023	6,023	666	666
.. value-payable (A) . . .	235	1,120	182	2,870	186	1,077	443	3,007	265	2,026	78	78
.. Service privileged . . .	904,238	940,480	1,408	6,820	5,563	3,170	1,325,802	1,400,340	1,111,700	1,077,380	65,166	65,166
Post-cards . . .	5,014,031	6,422,040	4,050,002	6,060,305	6,363,201	8,004,543	4,670,442	5,304,797	3,081,546	5,006,952	70,422	70,422
Reply Post-cards (a) . . .	...	25,000	...	67,500	...	85,697	...	41,071	...	24,000	...	...
Total . . .	25,002,810	27,000,308	22,708,305	29,209,332	32,504,638	36,604,910	20,076,200	22,393,743	18,960,383	22,646,004	2,477,770	2,990,438
Newspapers . . .	2,055,794	2,728,000	2,617,058	3,441,700	2,280,000	2,422,006	1,598,871	1,780,000	1,803,000	2,457,134	473,270	473,270
Book and Pattern Packets	unregistered . . .	603,701	603,701	705,380	603,701	603,701	332,000	332,000	282,234	331,046	44,817	44,817
	registered . . .	10,555	10,555	12,053	10,555	12,140	12,007	11,071	9,800	10,434	1,400	1,400
Packets paid . . .	31,205	31,205	71,140	71,000	101,000	101,000	70,100	60,000	90,000	101,000	9,007	9,007
.. unpaid . . .	51,837	51,837	50,812	50,812	45,227	45,227	45,000	45,000	47,450	47,000	15,900	15,900
.. insured . . .	10,900	10,900	30,921	30,921	21,129	21,129	20,310	17,304	17,220	19,000	3,250	3,250
.. value-payable . . .	21,104	20,400	22,790	20,004	10,970	11,344	20,000	16,317	20,870	20,300	7,000	7,000
Money Orders . . .	551,063	601,000	302,381	401,000	202,514	311,000	230,270	200,000	220,500	204,000	79,370	79,370
Grand Total . . .	28,004,530	30,041,704	31,730,511	33,006,404	35,063,621	39,370,186	23,113,100	24,043,744	21,579,146	25,728,000	3,108,410	3,490,438
Deduct number of articles returned undelivered . . .	611,200	611,200	1,119,200	611,200	1,601,000	1,700,000	800,000	600,000	679,500	600,000	100,177	100,177
Not actually delivered . . .	28,562,130	29,775,000	30,611,311	32,704,000	34,200,000	37,670,186	22,313,100	23,443,744	20,900,000	25,128,000	2,908,233	3,390,261
Add number of articles sent to Dead Letter Office . . .	602,000	602,000	222,111	222,111	500,000	500,000	264,186	264,186	265,000	265,000	15,000	15,000
Total . . .	29,164,130	30,377,000	30,833,422	33,526,111	34,700,000	38,170,186	22,577,286	23,707,930	21,165,000	25,393,000	3,023,233	3,405,261

(a) The use of reply post cards commenced on the 1st February 1884.

(b) The value-payable system was extended to registered letters in October 1882.

No. III.

Post Offices under the Bengal, Madras, Bombay, North-Western Provinces, Punjab, British Burma, Central Provinces, Oudh, Rajputana, Sind Postal Circles, during the years 1882-83 and 1883-84.

CENTRAL PROVINCES.		OUDH.		RAJPUTANA.		ASSAM.		BENAR.		EASTERN BENGAL.		CENTRAL INDIA.		GWD.		TOTAL.		
Number given out for delivery.		Number given out for delivery.		Number given out for delivery.		Number given out for delivery.		Number given out for delivery.		Number given out for delivery.		Number given out for delivery.		Number given out for delivery.		Number given out for delivery.		
1882-83.	1883-84.	1882-83.	1883-84.	1882-83.	1883-84.	1882-83.	1883-84.	1882-83.	1883-84.	1882-83.	1883-84.	1882-83.	1883-84.	1882-83.	1883-84.	1882-83.	1883-84.	
4,379,531	4,623,741	2,294,164	2,119,142	2,441,922	2,354,926	1,755,076	1,845,322	3,340,611	3,723,022	1,869,818	2,222,742	1,078,844	1,219,822	3,009,502	3,222,942	28,076,368	28,110,462	
1,500,201	1,617,022	1,253,683	1,230,422	786,158	744,965	735,371	735,961	2,511,144	2,421,722	1,040,722	992,227	822,774	822,774	514,103	477,822	28,829,570	28,829,570	
182,787	210,970	62,910	73,930	65,413	69,222	68,512	81,447	173,790	182,122	67,838	69,741	45,051	47,476	73,824	77,322	3,346,780	3,346,780	
5,110	2,477	805	1,332	1,225	1,225	3,839	2,424	2,101	2,322	4,171	4,657	704	99	822	1,222	96,988	102,988	
52	672	104	442	78	547	339	1,944	235	2,224	...	313	182	417	...	2,579	17,322	17,322	
391,098	399,023	119,746	121,572	11,107	13,422	96,008	92,722	426,870	426,843	205,938	207,477	...	...	...	...	4,717,053	4,717,053
1,115,414	1,360,042	855,013	1,022,322	363,879	521,700	446,786	519,822	840,830	1,125,921	818,721	1,157,222	317,732	412,942	322,422	422,942	29,844,147	30,321,072	
...	12,922	...	9,022	...	2,631	...	2,222	...	6,631	...	5,734	...	2,222	...	6,222	...	22,574	22,574
7,661,133	8,227,117	4,522,422	4,222,222	3,822,722	3,222,222	3,022,022	3,222,022	7,322,522	7,972,122	4,027,204	4,722,072	2,875,227	3,222,222	4,022,741	4,172,222	165,563,122	172,472,622	
502,787	542,755	360,133	437,472	221,946	243,122	511,082	522,272	563,027	672,072	308,327	422,374	322,322	372,322	322,322	322,322	14,075,677	15,242,922	
154,708	173,114	71,045	72,444	41,688	67,134	74,422	93,422	102,852	132,422	42,988	66,717	30,000	22,722	53,022	22,722	3,027,822	3,522,741	
3,722	7,422	1,522	2,842	2,711	3,222	2,822	4,224	3,852	7,274	2,112	4,222	2,022	2,222	1,422	1,422	85,044	131,227	
18,322	18,222	21,222	22,722	14,322	14,072	9,022	12,022	22,552	22,222	10,272	12,324	9,022	9,222	12,022	12,122	572,224	572,224	
10,522	14,022	8,722	7,222	11,572	11,322	15,022	14,222	19,971	17,227	9,922	9,422	10,422	12,122	8,222	7,122	357,805	322,222	
9,022	10,122	9,072	6,772	17,522	12,222	2,222	4,222	5,214	5,222	5,553	4,122	5,022	5,722	3,022	3,522	177,442	142,222	
10,350	11,222	5,732	7,422	4,522	5,222	15,617	19,971	17,937	19,222	9,422	7,322	3,072	5,622	4,272	4,742	204,687	233,244	
125,533	142,922	74,427	86,622	60,127	71,222	79,072	92,222	108,976	122,222	98,130	122,422	74,613	87,422	97,222	92,122	2,565,904	2,222,224	
8,515,222	9,154,222	5,102,541	4,222,222	4,044,370	4,222,222	3,722,222	4,222,222	8,252,922	9,222,222	4,587,057	5,222,222	3,217,222	3,222,222	4,551,722	4,722,222	122,622,562	122,622,562	
461,604	442,222	122,622	122,222	22,522	22,222	22,022	22,222	22,422	22,222	22,622	22,222	122,522	122,222	172,574	172,222	5,221,922	5,222,222	
8,022,722	8,222,222	5,041,222	4,222,222	3,822,772	4,222,222	3,712,122	3,222,222	8,022,542	8,222,222	4,222,322	4,222,322	3,172,222	3,222,222	4,222,122	4,222,222	122,772,022	122,772,022	
201,222	112,222	74,424	77,722	78,122	22,422	22,222	22,222	122,222	122,222	...	...	...	...	22,222	22,222	2,321,417	2,422,222
2,152,222	2,722,222	2,112,422	2,222,222	2,222,222	2,222,222	2,722,222	2,222,222	2,102,222	2,222,222	2,222,222	2,222,222	3,172,702	2,222,222	4,415,222	4,222,222	122,132,022	122,772,222	

Appendix

Statement showing the Number of Articles received at, and disposed of by, the Dead Letter Offices at Calcutta, Madras, Bombay, Allahabad, Lahore, and Nagpur.

	CALCUTTA.		MADRAS.		BOMBAY.		ALLAHABAD.		LAHORE.		NAGPUR.	
	Number.		Number.		Number.		Number.		Number.		Number.	
	1882-83.	1883-84.	1882-83.	1883-84.	1882-83.	1883-84.	1882-83.	1883-84.	1882-83.	1883-84.	1882-83.	1883-84.
Received from Post Office.												
Registered Articles	1,054	1,340	2,753	2,194	4,816	5,246	708	879	688	679	738	875
Parcels . . .	96	831	80	91	284	265	25	70	30	23	1	20
Letters . . .	432,988	495,464	189,397	177,423	280,639	299,997	263,497	279,968	200,918	199,843	27,882	29,461
Newspapers . . .	12,215	20,874	12,620	12,430	24,130	30,198	14,394	14,296	14,172	13,800	3,278	4,178
Packets . . .	16,086	16,196	1,011	2,793	7,502	5,177	1,683	1,416	4,578	5,107	54	48
Total	462,439	513,700	206,761	215,475	427,143	440,686	280,187	295,777	220,398	218,780	101,953	112,579
Received from other Dead Letter Offices.												
Registered Articles	250	406	1,894	977	605	796	209	271	145	176	101	102
Parcels . . .	11	30	1	20	3	19	15	10	31	40	1	1
Letters . . .	100,622	121,369	35,211	30,815	61,274	65,192	162,063	173,794	48,514	46,483	27,080	25,270
Newspapers . . .	7,593	10,197	2,172	2,170	25,172	23,298	5,906	7,070	3,287	4,000	255	407
Packets . . .	2,200	2,404	386	200	13,448	12,711	924	897	416	670	10	13
Total	120,884	135,402	38,754	37,302	103,502	101,076	169,117	181,334	52,373	51,260	27,496	26,483
Total Number of Articles received in the Dead Letter Office.	583,323	649,102	245,515	252,777	530,645	541,762	449,304	477,111	272,771	270,040	129,449	139,062
Returned - Articles transferred to other Dead Letter Offices.												
Registered Articles	229	210	204	234	1,512	1,384	263	280	146	110	60	27
Parcels . . .	2	14	1	8	5	19	5	20	5	3	1	4
Letters . . .	151,679	174,800	20,076	18,420	62,904	67,519	100,865	107,715	52,509	50,104	41,521	43,700
Newspapers . . .	7,525	8,247	7,863	7,417	4,011	26,401	9,938	10,413	4,947	5,164	2,575	2,433
Packets . . .	10,064	8,446	1,073	1,004	826	9,780	1,801	1,184	3,318	2,467	43	3
Total	180,494	201,717	29,217	26,663	69,338	105,103	112,872	120,606	60,825	60,830	44,200	46,467
Balance remaining to be disposed of . . .	414,089	447,385	216,298	226,114	461,307	436,659	336,432	356,505	211,946	209,210	85,249	92,595
Articles sent out by Dead Letter Office.												
By re-direction or re-transmission to their addressees.												
Registered Articles	141	173	50	30	214	319	71	44	77	77	1	10
Parcels . . .	8	21	6	4	75	60	5	14	7	3	1	1
Letters . . .	15,373	20,296	7,407	6,391	66,370	60,266	17,088	18,051	18,798	17,028	5,769	1,481
Newspapers . . .	451	800	1,000	1,000	2,000	2,000	970	600	1,100	900	258	419
Packets . . .	751	1,200	250	200	1,700	1,000	318	170	823	873	13	16
Total	16,724	22,570	8,703	7,534	51,963	45,635	19,262	16,764	20,831	19,439	6,044	2,927
By return to their senders.												
Registered Articles	1,000	1,100	2,000	2,000	2,423	2,637	604	473	437	370	480	616
Parcels . . .	23	26	24	26	107	107	12	16	27	26	1	1
Letters . . .	250,983	279,294	102,882	107,787	170,873	161,614	220,330	221,880	122,788	126,176	60,719	60,990
Newspapers . . .	12,832	20,240	5,000	7,400	41,665	26,470	8,628	10,471	11,260	14,177	700	813
Packets . . .	8,220	9,000	672	700	18,281	7,000	303	236	794	1,083	6	7
Total	281,158	329,660	112,578	127,213	233,149	235,823	290,637	313,260	145,297	141,863	61,914	64,427
Articles undeliverable and reported as dead.												
Registered Articles	23	74	507	276	1,072	1,704	199	293	173	167	286	314
Parcels . . .	14	27	20	44	164	127	28	27	24	31	1	7
Letters . . .	115,889	111,268	32,323	28,140	144,786	140,390	85,467	80,004	45,326	49,066	18,962	18,000
Newspapers . . .	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200
Packets . . .	268	207	220	417	65	60	206	20	50	204	2	5
Total	116,284	112,768	33,047	28,867	145,167	142,481	87,563	80,544	45,819	49,347	19,251	18,326
GRAND TOTAL	614,089	661,672	278,562	281,640	676,812	684,243	536,867	557,714	318,596	319,387	140,700	140,989
Articles issued by Dead Letter Office for delivery to the Addressee or Returner and returned as undeliverable.												
Registered Articles	100	100	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200
Parcels . . .	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Letters . . .	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
Newspapers . . .	27	27	101	100	15	26	27	23	19	26	26	26
Packets . . .	5	24	20	20	8	4	21	20	26	20	20	20
Total	20,034	20,153	10,022	10,021	20,004	20,031	20,028	20,044	19,966	19,957	10,027	10,057

No. IV.

Madras, Bombay, Allahabad, Lahore, Nagpore, Lucknow, Abu, Rangoon, Dinapore and Kurrachee, by the Enquiry Office at Shillong, and by the Railway Mail Service Enquiry Offices
 Imere, during the years 1882-83 and 1883-84.

LUCKNOW.		ABU.		RANGOON.		DINAPORA.		KURRACHEE.		ENQUIRY OFFICES.										TOTAL.						
Number.		Number.		Number.		Number.		Number.		SHILLONG.		MADRAS.		BOMBAY.		ALLAHABAD.		UMBALLA.		AJMER.		Number.		Proportion.		
1882-83.	1883-84.	1882-83.	1883-84.	1882-83.	1883-84.	1882-83.	1883-84.	1882-83.	1883-84.	1882-83.	1883-84.	1882-83.	1883-84.	1882-83.	1883-84.	1882-83.	1883-84.	1882-83.	1883-84.	1882-83.	1883-84.	1882-83.	1883-84.	1882-83.	1883-84.	
154	200	287	170	58	91	491	203	201	201	105	103	28	0	5,348	4,719	104	214	38	21	8	10	17,587	19,453			
70,435	73,452	52,663	51,470	15,687	16,700	137,677	140,880	35,718	37,058	52,777	50,145	21,300	20,094	108,836	86,670	65,724	62,100	23,319	22,941	22,941	22,941	2,184,556	2,007,785			
2,521	2,616	1,703	2,140	185	219	2,980	3,010	1,278	1,265	3,288	3,043	883	1,101	7,965	5,045	7,982	6,065	1,717	890	120	160	112,140	130,771			
1,375	1,306	370	243	20	20	1,732	1,666	781	737	71	163	98	147	62	70	152	120	19	100	70	65	36,574	25,443			
71,494	77,718	55,027	55,050	15,951	16,153	142,686	149,886	36,067	37,330	56,243	57,520	25,370	21,510	122,219	96,520	73,907	72,753	25,101	23,300	23,141	23,395	2,351,417	2,416,152	76'47	76'00	
71	70	40	40	13	9	121	127	62	70													2,777	2,003			
81,316	80,859	37,749	26,940	2,075	2,088	78,530	95,408	8,449	10,100													69	361			
1,798	2,084	130	134	87	79	339	333	63	52													654,992	680,916			
141	140	66	65	12	20	130	113	60	54													46,782	51,880			
83,326	82,577	37,973	27,376	2,187	2,168	79,227	97,100	8,434	10,367													18,813	19,007			
157,820	160,295	93,000	90,046	16,148	21,351	221,913	246,270	46,701	49,927	56,293	67,350	25,370	21,510	122,219	96,520	73,907	72,753	25,101	23,300	23,141	23,395	723,433	752,000	23'53	24'00	
51	126	101	60		21	88	120	41	27	79	120	1	2	60	25		36	7	6	2	3	2,804	2,151			
1	3	1	0				6		2	2	12	1		1	8		22	1	1			28	135			
38,986	30,444	27,406	26,043	825	2,382	41,799	42,900	19,659	19,540	48,516	37,140	1,068	1,330	17,181	7,217	9,061	8,334	3,259	4,277	1,418	1,700	680,297	700,547			
1,745	1,900	1,599	1,807	4	76	2,234	3,204	1,151	1,200	2,682	3,760	145	247	970	315	804	281	371	186	33	26	48,857	74,100			
1,012	977	271	194	3	4	1,346	1,188	627	548	57	108	28	67	41	29		24	10	14	11	12	20,531	28,104			
41,775	42,454	29,468	27,001	832	2,420	45,467	47,054	21,278	21,165	52,336	61,153	1,853	2,145	18,233	7,524	10,025	8,987	3,048	4,801	1,064	1,770	752,315	808,000	24'47	25'00	
116,045	117,841	63,532	62,325	17,316	19,369	176,446	198,904	25,423	28,752	3,907	6,307	23,517	19,365	103,986	88,045	63,972	64,166	21,453	18,709	21,677	21,795	2,322,535	2,371,000	75'53	76'00	
9	20	6	10	15		15	22	19	15	26	54	27	6	5,308	4,704	104	170	31	15	6	7	6,183	5,700			
1	2		1				2				4			7	18		75	12	11	2	3	153	126			
6,204	6,009	16,115	16,481	857	1,404	12,670	11,479	2,007	3,526	3,261	5,003	22,602	18,415	91,055	79,455	56,603	54,874	20,060	17,799	21,523	21,580	305,302	305,367			
142	210	136	224	5	11	225	224	75	198	606	1,281	738	844	6,965	4,730	6,918	4,874	1,346	244	87	143	91,744	94,395			
221	238	80	53	4	1	269	280	158	220	11	35	60	90	21	41	182	128	9	140	50	23	5,015	5,400			
6,637	6,209	16,740	16,460	881	1,706	13,179	12,307	2,280	3,911	3,907	6,307	23,517	19,365	103,986	88,045	63,972	64,166	21,453	18,709	21,677	21,795	401,437	391,810	17'29	16'52	
101	117	169	123	24	60	329	284	251	279													8,732	10,001			
2	6	1	7	2	6	4	3		8													112	277			
84,301	84,047	41,008	39,721	14,406	15,436	116,694	120,390	16,357	17,483													1,220,612	1,205,176			
2,389	2,652	90	40	201	221	787	630	82	76													84,176	84,833			
202	234	49	45	5	23	219	271	56	20													28,860	19,069			
87,035	86,263	41,319	39,344	14,638	15,078	118,023	120,807	16,740	17,871													1,342,402	1,370,876	57'80	57'70	
08	207	59	35	30	17	180	205	42	30													2,645	3,612			
5	6	2	1	11	7	0	14	1	3													280	314			
22,220	22,131	5,793	7,099	1,674	1,577	44,944	46,341	6,312	6,828													573,337	600,981			
43	26	6	3	62		73	128	23	44													1,354	1,003			
61	99	7	1	20	24	28	100		25													981	1,367			
22,273	22,300	5,897	7,072	1,707	1,603	45,234	46,790	6,388	6,870																	
116,045	117,841	63,532	62,325	17,316	19,369	176,446	198,904	25,423	28,752	3,907	6,307	23,517	19,365	103,986	88,045	63,972	64,166	21,453	18,709	21,677	21,795	2,322,535	2,371,000	100	100	
6	5	25	20	5		102	147	17	26	1												914	1,146			
3,156	2,700	4,209	5,008	1,344	1,517	18,630	18,707	2,044	2,204	251	300											6	8			
2						4	12		5													150,367	152,041			
						1		2	14													258	308			
3,104	2,791	4,234	5,077	1,349	1,517	18,738	18,866	2,053	2,213	357	341											127	141			
																							151,672	153,644	8'70	

	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	1-anna Labels.	2-anna Labels.	4-anna Labels.	8-anna Labels.	Gross Value.
Bengal	156,376	1,344	1,111,524	.	.	.	1,628,561	148,133	108,515	39,127	2,04,246
Madras	130,569	3,408	2,547,391	.	.	.	2,244,020	167,813	66,425	26,510	2,72,922
Bombay	52,256	4,544	1,821,012	1,784	.	.	2,829,062	238,066	123,509	52,663	3,21,951
North-Western Provinces	69,376	10,616	1,482,265	.	.	.	1,501,056	142,991	62,447	31,770	1,86,172
Punjab	75,471	12,693	912,910	.	.	.	2,243,032	176,195	144,188	86,599	2,71,962
British Burma	9,628	.	178,788	.	.	.	261,108	11,522	4,654	1,919	25,620
Central Provinces	16,416	4,800	510,578	.	.	.	554,627	47,653	20,911	8,337	66,492
Oudh	12,544	2,432	318,160	.	.	.	346,927	30,255	18,062	7,426	43,965
Rajputana	6,288	.	100,818	.	.	.	113,478	6,206	2,436	951	12,201
Assam	20,716	.	162,606	.	.	.	276,828	15,577	11,174	2,964	28,930
Behar	15,626	.	391,236	.	.	.	348,133	21,719	8,564	1,552	39,860
Eastern Bengal	5,600	.	129,328	.	.	.	194,743	10,325	4,485	976	19,200
Central India	2,290	7,984	103,235	.	.	.	161,930	9,321	4,612	2,372	17,323
Sind	11,872	3,792	576,476	.	.	.	479,196	18,977	8,388	2,560	54,107
Total of 1883-84	585,028	51,613	10,346,327	1,784	832	12,416,433	13,182,701	1,045,653	588,370	255,726	15,04,951 ^(a)
Total of 1882-83	443,949	46,432	10,153,602	832	832	12,416,433		985,587	556,158	239,972	14,85,066

(a) Gross value of Service postage labels sold as per Appendix VI

The difference is due to the following causes :—
Ordinary postage labels used by the District.

Primary postage labels used by **Precedent Bank** and their branches in connection with Government Treasury business adjusted as Service labels
Difference in figures supplied by the Civil Account Department and those supplied by the Superintendents of Stamps

R	15,64,051
	<u>15,72,756</u>
	<u>7,805</u>

Appendix No. VII.

Statement showing the Correspondence sent to, and received from, the District Post in each Postal Circle during the years 1882-83 and 1883-84.

NAMES OF POSTAL CIRCLES.	ARTICLES RECEIVED FROM THE IMPERIAL POST OFFICE FROM THE DISTRICT POST FOR DELIVERY BY THE DISTRICT POST.										ARTICLES POSTED IN THE DISTRICT POST FOR DESPATCH TO THE IMPERIAL POST OFFICE BY THE DISTRICT POST.										ARTICLES RETURNED BY THE DISTRICT POST TO THE IMPERIAL POST UNDELIVERED.									
	PAID.					UNPAID.					PAID.					UNPAID.					PAID.					UNPAID.				
	Money Orders.	Registered Articles.	Letters.	Packets.	Total.	Money Orders.	Registered Articles.	Letters.	Packets.	Total.	Money Orders.	Registered Articles.	Letters.	Packets.	Total.	Money Orders.	Registered Articles.	Letters.	Packets.	Total.	Money Orders.	Registered Articles.	Letters.	Packets.	Total.	Money Orders.	Registered Articles.	Letters.	Packets.	Total.
Bengal	13,607	13,209	569,949	2,030	67,304	203,434	2,439	867,872	24,719	10,292	570,312	834	5,398	159,005	317	770,877	280	606	7,659	103	1,850	19,677	150	30,325	30,325					
Madras	21,701	60,936	1,056,546	4,030	64,122	380,187	2,032	1,589,552	3,258	7,187	380,431	262	3,751	125,240	317	520,446	965	11,207	20,358	145	1,237	52,649	102	86,663	86,663					
Bombay	13,596	16,425	683,538	1,191	20,744	317,266	427	1,053,187	153	9,653	256,988	23	37	98,288	1	338,143	411	3,013	14,698	56	389	32,711	16	51,294	51,294					
North-Western Provinces	19,880	17,256	553,040	2,621	25,333	315,743	1,764	935,617	13,572	7,072	538,147	771	4,774	209,673	544	804,553	810	2,200	10,107	123	899	38,302	119	52,560	52,560					
Punjab	597	1,353	47,864	301	3,059	12,919	244	66,247	534	919	48,282	145	837	8,622	110	59,509	6	111	859	9	21	1,720	6	2,732	2,732					
British Burma	392	1,595	59,480	623	12,170	62,922	804	137,986	1,658	923	45,252	253	1,072	34,159	130	83,447	30	139	2,257	40	481	19,749	67	22,803	22,803					
Central Provinces	1,101	19,198	177,865	971	10,479	98,386	665	308,665	3,599	9,608	167,575	319	4,114	70,758	522	256,495	74	1,694	6,281	49	358	17,139	70	25,665	25,665					
Oudh	10,508	3,855	84,215	776	4,812	65,801	444	170,411	2,300	2,270	63,642	168	1,192	61,703	122	131,397	234	284	1,114	35	96	6,439	62	8,264	8,264					
Rajputana	159	1,248	15,306	53	651	6,851	16	24,284	336	549	11,461	23	781	4,556	4	17,700	6	79	427		38	737	4	1,291	1,291					
Assam	671	1,082	47,463	297	5,057	28,910	213	83,693	390	683	37,623	92	678	20,016	30	59,512	29	64	925	20	182	4,667	10	5,897	5,897					
Behar	14,523	11,417	201,051	1,519	12,757	196,909	8,377	440,553	10,819	6,987	194,704	383	2,208	167,913	839	383,853	500	1,059	12,870	140	414	18,739	282	34,004	34,004					
Eastern Bengal	1,716	2,667	122,074	531	9,377	55,303	509	192,177	5,798	2,039	133,098	224	967	54,428	81	196,635	48	139	1,766	33	266	7,996	33	10,281	10,281					
Total for 1883-84	98,361	150,221	3,618,391	14,943	231,795	1,744,631	17,934	5,876,246	67,126	51,182	2,427,515	3,497	25,869	1,044,361	3,017	3,622,567	3,393	20,595	79,561	753	6,231	220,525	921	331,779	331,779					
Total for 1882-83	92,223	132,252	3,455,924	16,280	194,706	1,753,828	7,743	5,611,356	53,946	46,410	2,277,922	3,488	23,474	900,859	2,295	3,398,394	3,158	16,403	72,773	612	5,135	223,174	504	321,789	321,789					

Statement showing the Offences punishable by Law committed by Post Office Officials during the Years 1882-83 and 1883-84

NUMBER OF ASCERTAINED CASES OF DISHONESTY ON THE PART OF POST OFFICE EMPLOYEES.		Number of legal convictions.	Number of cases departmentally punished.	Total.
Bengal	18	11	29	
Madras	20	5	25	
Bombay	15	16	31	
North-Western Provinces	14	5	19	
Punjab	11	10	21	
British Burma	5	6	5	
Central Provinces	7	7	13	
Oudh	7	7	7	
Rajputana	6	6	6	
Assam	32	6	38	
Behar	14	3	17	
Eastern Bengal	6	3	6	
Central India	2	2	2	
Sind	3	2	3	
Railway Mail Service	3	1	4	
Total of 1883-84		184	252	
TOTAL OF 1882-83		104	233	

Appendix No. IX.

Statement showing the Staff of Officers, Clerks and others of the Post Office Department in British India on the 31st March 1883 and 1884.

[illegible]

(*) Includes 22 stationary Village Postmen.

Appendix X.

Comparative Statement showing the Receipts and Charges of the Postal Department for the years 1882-83 and 1883-84.

HEADS OF RECEIPTS.	1882-83.	1883-84.	Increase.	Decrease.
	R	R	R	R
POSTAL SERVICE.				
<i>Postage on Letters and Banghy parcels.</i>				
Bengal	5,75,020	6,15,796	40,776	
Madras	3,67,929	3,84,875	16,946	
Bombay	5,59,038	5,81,817	22,779	
North-Western Provinces	4,25,122	4,36,209	11,087	
Punjab	3,58,467	3,49,910		8,557
British Burma	1,25,972	1,46,868	20,896	
Central Provinces	1,59,320	1,64,156	4,836	
Oudh	1,09,869	1,14,059	4,190	
Rajputana	1,02,076	1,03,673	1,597	
Assam	1,01,318	1,11,373	10,055	
Behar	2,20,543	2,24,453	3,910	
Eastern Bengal	1,11,182	1,20,089	8,907	
Central India	96,185	99,577	3,392	
Sind	65,361	71,962	6,601	
TOTAL	33,77,402	35,24,817	1,55,972	8,557
<i>Sale of Ordinary Postage Stamps.</i>				
Bengal	9,37,717	9,88,822	51,105	
Madras	8,56,588	9,23,864	67,276	
Bombay	10,09,889	10,93,454	83,565	
North-Western Provinces	4,73,644	5,12,702	39,058	
Punjab	4,19,942	4,57,542	37,600	
British Burma	1,12,144	1,14,450	2,306	
Central Provinces	1,48,240	1,61,462	13,222	
Oudh	85,473	94,198	8,725	
Rajputana	71,904	79,776	7,872	
Assam	76,026	81,476	5,450	
Behar	1,52,430	1,67,121	14,691	
Eastern Bengal	83,312	92,309	8,997	
Central India	67,958	71,358	3,400	
Sind	97,758	1,07,428	9,670	
TOTAL	45,93,025	49,45,962	3,52,937	
<i>Deduct—Discount on sale of Postage Stamps</i>	1,42,554	1,53,801	11,247	
NET TOTAL	44,50,471	47,92,161	3,41,690	
<i>Sale of Service Postage Stamps.</i>				
Bengal	2,02,298	2,09,973	7,675	
Madras	2,45,907	2,73,623	27,716	
Bombay	3,12,266	3,23,288	11,022	
North-Western Provinces	1,76,381	1,86,272	9,891	
Punjab	2,61,337	2,71,962	10,625	
British Burma	24,766	25,606	840	
Central Provinces	65,274	66,492	1,218	
Oudh	42,443	43,965	1,522	
Rajputana	11,444	12,201	757	
Assam	26,219	28,930	2,711	
Behar	36,939	39,860	2,921	
Eastern Bengal	16,622	19,200	2,578	
Central India	16,046	17,277	1,231	
Sind	52,860	54,107	1,247	
TOTAL	14,90,802	15,72,756	81,954	

Appendix X—continued.

HEADS OF RECEIPTS.	1882-83.	1883-84.	Increase.	Decrease.
POSTAL SERVICE—continued.	R	R	R	R
Steam Postage due by the London Post Office.				
Bengal	3,516	3,843	327	. . . . .
Bombay	1,90,947	1,97,375	6,428	. . . . .
TOTAL	1,94,463	2,01,218	6,755	. . . . .
Payments by Colonial and Foreign Administrations.				
Bombay	4,647	2,481	. . . . .	2,166
TOTAL	1,99,110	2,03,699	6,755	2,166
Miscellaneous.				
Bengal	{ (w) 2,388 (s) 73 6,401	{ 2,380 6 6,533	{ 66	. . . . .
Madras	{ (w) 1,272 (s) . . . 3,473	{ 1,476 2 3,362	{ 95	. . . . .
Bombay	{ (w) 2,172 (s) 15 12,378	{ 2,028 181 7,827	{	4,529
North-Western Provinces	{ (w) 300 (s) 16 5,798	{ 168 530 16,798	{ 11,382	. . . . .
Punjab	{ (w) 48 (s) 13 11,190	{ 60 61 7,839	{	3,291
British Burma	{ (w) 1,380 (s) . . . 690	{ 1,344 1,595	{ 869	. . . . .
Central Provinces	{ (w) . . . (s) . . . 1,672	{ . . . 1,331	{	341
Oudh	{ (w) . . . (s) 1 482	{ . . . 44 411	{	28
Rajputana	{ (w) . . . (s) . . . 313	{ . . . 1 433	{ 121	. . . . .
Assam	{ (w) 300 (s) . . . 310	{ 228 4 423	{ 45	. . . . .
Behar	{ (w) . . . (s) . . . 958	{ 36 1 1,100	{ 179	. . . . .
Eastern Bengal	{ (w) . . . (s) . . . 438	{ . . . 404	{	34
Central India	{ (w) 24 (s) 2 308	{ 12 13 307	{	2
Madh	{ (w) 132 (s) . . . 750	{ 204 4 680	{ 6	. . . . .
TOTAL (a)	53,297	57,835	12,763	8,225

(w) Window Delivery.
(s) Sale of Service books.
(a) See note on next page.

Appendix X—continued.

HEADS OF RECEIPTS.	1882-83.	1883-84.	Increase.	Decrease.
	R	R	R	R
<i>Total Postal Service.</i>				
Bengal	17,27,413	18,27,362	99,949	
Madras	14,75,169	15,87,202	1,12,033	
Bombay	20,91,352	22,08,451	1,17,099	
North-Western Provinces	10,81,261	11,52,079	71,418	
Punjab	10,50,997	10,87,374	36,377	
British Burma	2,64,952	2,89,863	24,911	
Central Provinces	3,74,506	3,93,441	18,935	
Oudh	2,38,268	2,52,077	14,409	
Rajputana	1,85,737	1,96,084	10,347	
Assam	2,04,173	2,22,434	18,261	
Behar	4,10,870	4,32,571	21,701	
Eastern Bengal	2,11,554	2,32,002	20,448	
Central India	1,80,523	1,88,544	8,021	
Sind	2,16,861	2,34,385	17,524	
TOTAL	97,13,636	1,03,05,069	5,91,433	
<i>Deduct—Discount on sale of Postage Stamps</i>	1,42,554	1,53,801	11,247	
NET TOTAL	95,71,082	1,01,51,268	5,80,186	
DEDUCT—				
<i>Amount credited to the London Post Office.</i>				
Bengal	1,11,211	1,04,151		7,060
Bombay	3,25,819	3,81,330	55,511	
	4,37,030	4,85,481	55,511	7,060
DEDUCT—				
<i>Payments to Colonial and Foreign Administrations.</i>				
Bombay	27,117	3,487		23,630
TOTAL	4,64,147	4,88,968	55,511	30,690

(a) Including Sale Proceeds of the Indian Postal Guides and Postal Rates, and Passage-money in Dak Boats as follows:—

	SALE OF POSTAL GUIDES AND POSTAL RATES.		PASSAGE-MONEY IN DAK BOATS.	
	1882-83.	1883-84.	1882-83.	1883-84.
	R	R	R	R
Bengal	508	257	659	761
Madras	483	415		
Bombay	300	247	6,076	
North-Western Provinces	436	233		
Punjab	463	190		
British Burma	109	92	366	769
Central Provinces	136	87		
Oudh	85	84		
Rajputana	45	49		
Assam	85	64		
Behar	151	89		
Eastern Bengal	85	70		
Central India	49	34		
Sind	56	36		
TOTAL	2,991	1,947	7,101	1,530

Appendix No. X—continued.

HEADS OF RECEIPTS.		1882-83.	1883-84.	Increase.	Decrease.
POSTAL SERVICE.		R	R	R	R
Net Amount.					
Bengal		16,16,202	17,23,211	1,07,009	
Madras		14,75,169	15,87,202	1,12,033	
Bombay		17,38,416	18,23,634	85,218	
North-Western Provinces		10,81,261	11,52,679	71,418	
Punjab		10,50,997	10,87,374	36,377	
British Burma		2,64,952	2,89,863	24,911	
Central Provinces		3,74,506	3,93,441	18,935	
Oudh		2,38,268	2,52,077	14,409	
Rajputana		1,85,737	1,96,084	10,347	
Assam		2,04,173	2,22,434	18,261	
Behar		4,10,870	4,32,571	21,701	
Eastern Bengal		2,11,554	2,32,002	20,448	
Central India		1,80,523	1,88,544	8,021	
Sind		2,16,861	2,34,385	17,524	
TOTAL		92,49,489	98,16,101	5,66,612	
Deduct—					
Discount on sale of Postage Stamps		1,42,554	1,53,801	11,247	
NET AMOUNT		91,06,935	96,62,300	5,55,365	
NON-POSTAL BRANCHES.					
Bullock Train.					
Bengal		25,776			25,776
North-Western Provinces		50			50
Punjab		2,45,713	1,57,244		88,469
Central India		3			3
TOTAL		2,71,542	1,57,244		1,14,298
Military Van Dak.					
Punjab		7,194			7,194
Passenger Service.					
North-Western Provinces		2,164	316		1,848
Punjab		1,86,000	1,68,327		17,673
TOTAL		1,88,164	1,68,643		19,521
TOTAL OF NON-POSTAL BRANCHES.					
Bengal		25,776			25,776
North-Western Provinces		2,314	316		1,998
Punjab		4,38,907	3,25,571		1,13,336
Central India		3			3
TOTAL		4,66,900	3,25,887		1,41,013

Appendix No. X—continued.

HEADS OF CHARGES.	1882-83.	1883-84.	Increase.	Decrease.
	R	R	R	R
POSTAL SERVICE.				
<i>Salaries and Establishment.</i>				
Director General of the Post Office	1,07,981	1,22,312	14,331	...
Comptroller, Post Office	2,04,777	2,30,045	31,268	...
Bengal	9,80,805	10,43,164	62,359	...
Madras	8,11,065	8,37,688	26,623	...
Bombay	10,21,079	10,70,509	49,430	...
N-W. Provinces	6,14,818	6,34,995	20,177	...
Punjab	5,07,086	5,25,372	18,286	...
British Burma	1,29,112	1,49,790	20,678	...
Central Provinces	2,76,936	2,83,119	6,183	...
Oudh	1,44,497	1,50,555	6,058	...
Rajputana	1,29,425	1,34,455	5,030	...
Assam	2,16,615	2,04,543	...	12,072
Behar	2,56,500	2,73,870	17,370	...
Eastern Bengal	1,85,438	2,02,492	17,054	...
Central India	1,08,037	1,19,430	11,393	...
Sind	1,08,690	1,08,933	243	...
Railway Mail Service	7,47,301	7,66,726	19,425	...
TOTAL	65,50,162	68,63,998	3,25,908	12,072
<i>Miscellaneous and Contingencies.</i>				
Director General of the Post Office	29,829	38,457	8,628	...
Comptroller, Post Office	19,134	12,299	...	6,835
Bengal	(a) 1,738 (b) 1,93,036 (c) 244	68 1,61,792 497	...	32,661
Madras	(a) 26 (b) ... (c) 1,852 86,764 (d) 241	52 431 ... 87,803 2,133	1,536	...
Bombay	(a) ... (b) 1,22,696 (c) 3,577	2 1,27,533 3,595	4,857	...
N-W. Provinces	(a) 808 (b) 1,02,832 (c) ...	... 81,824 -2,959	...	24,775
Punjab	(a) 31 (b) 55,756 (c) ... (d) ... (e) 1	1 68,368 149 33 80	12,843	...
British Burma	(a) 7 (b) 17,732 (c) 86 (d) 2,755	34 32,230 ... 2,793	14,483	...
Central Provinces	(a) 3 (b) 2,347 (c) 52,319 (d) 300	8 15 53,548 -1,937	...	3,365
Oudh	(a) 103 (b) 15,624 (c) 1,493	5 14,609 ...	...	2,606
Carried over	7,11,364	6,91,261	42,347	70,242

Appendix No. X—continued.

HEADS OF CHARGES.	1882-83.	1883-84.	Increase.	Decrease.
	R	R	R	R
POSTAL SERVICE—continued.				
Miscellaneous and Contingencies—continued.				
Brought forward	7,11,364	6,91,261	42,347	70,242
Rajputana	14,365	13,076		
(c) 90				1,379
Assam	26,288	21,047		5,241
Behar	(a) 153	10		
	30,759	35,402	4,500	
Eastern Bengal	20,627	22,153		
(c)		35	1,561	
Central India	(e) 6,381			
	14,769	13,861		6,678
(c)	39	650		
and	9,565	13,456	3,891	
Railway Mail Service	(e) 3,51,977	4,58,077		
	3,42,619	3,42,877		
(f) 85,811		39,493	52,393	
(d) 40,035		32,388		
TOTAL	16,54,842	16,75,094	1,04,692	83,540

(a) Law charges.
 (c) Compensation for loss of insured parcels.
 (d) Special Train hire.
 (e) Payments to State Railways.

(f) Haulage of sorting carriages.
 (g) Camp of exercise.
 (h) Kalahandi Expedition.
 (i) Taket Solyman Camp Post Office.

Printing Charges.	1882-83.	1883-84.	Increase.	Decrease.
	R	R	R	R
Bengal	3,243	3,905	662	
Madras	945	770		175
Bombay	4,666	3,682		984
North-Western Provinces	34,177	11,024		23,153
Punjab	661	1,044	383	
British Burma	407	244		163
Central Provinces	166	71		95
Oudh	1,142	1,094		48
Rajputana		246	246	
Assam				
Behar				
Eastern Bengal	795	1,283	488	
Central India	115	481	366	
Sind	111	543	432	
Railway Mail Service	138	552	414	
	25,257	36,448	11,191	
TOTAL	71,823	61,387	14,182	24,618

Appendix No. X—continued.

HEADS OF CHARGES.	1882-83.	1883-84.	Increase.	Decrease.
	<i>R</i>	<i>R</i>	<i>R</i>	<i>R</i>
POSTAL SERVICE—continued.				
<i>Mail-cart (after deducting charges for Passenger Service).</i>				
Bengal	5,967	5,310	. . . . .	657
Madras	14,100	16,023	1,923	. . . . .
Bombay	91,429	1,04,466	13,037	. . . . .
North-Western Provinces	26,498	30,659	4,161	. . . . .
Punjab	1,21,753	1,41,581	19,828	. . . . .
British Burma	1,800	2,100	300	. . . . .
Central Provinces	18,255	23,256	5,001	. . . . .
Oudh	19,495	22,185	2,690	. . . . .
Rajputana	1,245	1,800	555	. . . . .
Behar	537	486	. . . . .	51
Central India	3,845	4,236	391	. . . . .
Sind	15,137	14,083	. . . . .	1,054
Assam . . . . .	. . . . .	7,630	7,680	. . . . .
Railway Mail Service . . . . .	. . . . .	390	390	. . . . .
TOTAL	3,20,061	3,74,255	55,956	1,762
<i>Bounty Money.</i>				
Bengal	19	2	...	17
Madras	12	171	159	...
Bombay	1,265	1,751	486	...
British Burma	118	157	39	...
TOTAL	1,414	2,081	684	17
<i>Construction and Repairs of Post Office Buildings.</i>				
Bengal	10,632	12,346	1,714	. . . . .
Madras	489	353	. . . . .	136
Bombay	934	1,663	729	. . . . .
North-Western Provinces	1,253	1,959	706	. . . . .
Punjab	118	642	524	. . . . .
British Burma . . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .
Central Provinces	1,003	1,725	722	. . . . .
Oudh	483	534	51	. . . . .
Rajputana	35	40	5	. . . . .
Assam	1,917	1,732	. . . . .	185
Behar	1,773	2,427	654	. . . . .
Eastern Bengal	2,722	2,341	. . . . .	381
Central India	73	105	32	. . . . .
Sind	530	218	. . . . .	312
Railway Mail Service	785	377	. . . . .	408
TOTAL	22,747	26,462	5,137	1,422

Appendix No. X—concluded.

HEADS OF CHARGES.	1882-83.	1883-84.	Increase.	Decrease.
POSTAL SERVICE—continued.	R	R	R	R
<i>Total Postal Service</i>				
Director General of the Post Office	1,37,810	1,60,769	22,959	...
Comptroller, Post Office	2,23,911	2,48,344	24,433	...
Bengal	11,92,441	12,23,179	30,738	...
Madras	9,14,549	9,44,654	30,105	...
Bombay	12,40,980	13,09,519	68,539	...
N.W. Provinces	7,46,209	7,46,478	269	...
Punjab	6,84,745	7,36,226	51,481	...
British Burma	1,51,610	1,87,110	35,500	...
Central Provinces	3,51,193	3,50,734	8,541	...
Oudh	1,81,695	1,87,888	6,193	...
Rajputana	1,45,160	1,49,371	4,211	...
Assam	2,44,820	2,35,002	...	9,818
Bihar	2,89,722	3,12,195	22,473	...
Eastern Bengal	2,08,787	2,27,021	18,234	...
Central India	1,33,144	1,38,282	5,138	...
And	1,33,922	1,36,690	2,768	...
Railway Mail Service	15,68,528	16,40,328	71,800	...
NET TOTAL	85,49,226	89,42,790	4,03,382	9,818
NON-POSTAL BRANCHES.				
<i>Bullock Train.</i>				
Bengal	15,738	...	...	15,738
Punjab	2,20,062	1,54,640	...	65,422
TOTAL	2,35,800	1,54,640	...	81,160
<i>Military Van Dak.</i>				
Punjab	10,039	...	...	10,039
<i>Passenger Service.</i>				
N.W. Provinces	2,164	316	...	1,848
Punjab	1,86,000	1,68,327	...	17,673
TOTAL	1,88,164	1,68,643	...	19,521
<i>Subsidy Payments to the British India Steam Navigation Company.</i>				
Bengal	7,12,000	7,14,413	2,413	...
<i>Total Non-Postal Branches.</i>				
Bengal	7,27,738	7,14,413	...	13,325
N.W. Provinces	2,164	316	...	1,848
Punjab	4,16,101	3,22,967	...	93,134
NET AMOUNT	11,46,003	10,37,696	...	1,08,307

Statement of reconciliation of differences between the Post Office Accounts as shown in Appendix X and the Finance and Revenue Accounts as shown in Appendix XI in the detailed items of charges for 1882-83.

				R
(1).	Salaries and establishment as shown in Appendix X	.	.	65,50,162
	Ditto ditto in Appendix XI	.	.	65,09,457
			Difference	40,705

Due to the undermentioned items (a), (b), (c) being excluded from, and the item (d) being included in, this item in Appendix X—

(a).—Printing fixed (included in "Other Miscellaneous Charges" R1,37,416 in Finance and Revenue Accounts)	R
	37,003
(b).—Anchipore Ferry Contract (shown under "Subsidy" in Finance and Revenue Accounts)	2,000
(c).—Subsidy to Assam. Tonga Service (included in "Mail Cart" in Finance and Revenue Accounts)	3,335
	42,338
(d).—Kalahandi Expedition charges (included in "Miscellaneous and Contingencies" in Appendix X, but shown under "Fixed Establishment" in Finance and Revenue Accounts)	1,633
	40,705

				R
(2).	Miscellaneous and Contingencies as shown in Appendix XI	.	.	16,90,214
	Ditto ditto Appendix X	.	.	16,54,842
			Difference	35,372

		R
The item (a) less the item (d) is	.	35,370
Add difference due to throwing off annas and pies	.	2
		35,372

				R
(3).	Mail Cart as shown in Appendix XI	.	.	3,23,395
	Ditto ditto Appendix X	.	.	3,20,061
				3,334
	Add difference due to throwing off annas and pies	.	.	1

Difference . . . 3,335 vide item (c).

(4).	Subsidy as shown in Appendix XI	.	.	7,14,000
	Ditto ditto Appendix X	.	.	7,12,000
			Difference	2,000 vide item (b).

Appendix

Accounts showing the Gross Revenue, Cost of Management, and Net Revenue, &c.

[NOTE.—The financial figures in this table do not include either receipts or disbursements]

YEAR.	POSTAGE REVENUE PROPER.			Miscellaneous cash receipts.	Total receipts.	Net receipts after deduction of postage due to foreign countries.	Net receipts, deducting also official postage.	Disbursements.	Excess of receipts.	Deficit, if official postage be not reckoned as a receipt.	Proportion of postage revenue proper realised in cash.	Post Office.
	Sale of stamps to public.	Official postage.	Cash on unpaid and insufficiently paid letters, &c.									
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)
	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R		No.
1853-54		24,71,176	19,92,870	55,584	45,19,630	45,19,630	20,48,454	24,37,209	20,82,421	3,88,755		64
1854-55 (estimated)		13,00,000	22,72,910		35,72,910	32,86,910	19,86,910	27,39,376	5,47,534	7,52,466		64
1855-56	8,52,750	16,20,662	7,72,744	60,300	33,06,456	32,11,186	15,90,524	29,44,501	2,66,085	13,53,977		75
1856-57	8,70,610	18,62,006	9,94,934	1,69,710	38,97,260	37,12,850	18,50,844	29,03,280	8,09,561	10,52,445		77
1857-58	8,53,500	18,53,210	8,25,284	1,75,470	37,07,464	36,03,024	17,49,814	35,92,848	10,176	18,43,034		80
1858-59	11,08,970	25,25,189	12,26,002	1,93,230	51,43,201	49,40,141	24,14,952	35,20,092	14,20,049	11,05,140		83
1859-60	14,49,040	27,47,012	12,35,683	92,260	55,23,995	53,30,245	25,92,233	37,37,911	16,01,334	11,45,678		85
1860-61	15,99,349	23,84,734	12,23,860	83,860	52,01,803	51,19,013	27,34,279	38,60,798	12,58,215	11,26,519		88
1861-62	17,59,920	28,68,833	12,54,826	62,760	59,46,339	56,73,679	28,04,846	37,99,755	18,73,924	9,94,909		94
1862-63	18,93,069	31,92,983	13,30,874	56,555	64,73,501	62,13,665	30,20,682	37,37,535	24,76,130	7,16,853		1,00
1863-64	21,00,107	35,58,546	14,43,410	35,588	71,37,651	67,05,591	32,07,045	38,76,161	28,89,429	6,69,117		1,00
1864-65	22,80,090	40,20,822	14,67,745	53,970	78,22,627	74,37,401	34,16,579	39,30,579	35,06,822	5,14,000		1,09
1865-66	24,46,105	50,08,003	14,91,707	47,600	89,93,415	85,67,271	35,59,268	41,08,625	43,78,646	6,29,357		1,53
1866-67 (11 months)	23,18,930	26,56,260	13,96,468	49,336	64,20,994	60,21,873	33,65,613	40,29,481	19,92,392	6,68,868		1,73
1867-68	25,42,261	23,09,839	15,32,952	63,128	64,48,180	60,84,446	37,74,607	47,54,940	13,29,506	9,80,333		2,20
1868-69	28,59,802	27,55,016	16,25,976	44,224	72,85,018	68,00,720	41,05,704	53,70,201	14,09,519	12,04,497		1,52
1869-70	26,90,557	28,87,627	16,13,383	67,550	72,59,117	68,16,010	39,28,383	55,96,779	12,19,231	16,68,396		2,68
1870-71	27,95,220	42,30,124	17,80,090	56,424	88,70,858	79,82,895	37,43,771	51,77,567	28,05,328	14,33,796		2,73
1871-72	28,94,625	34,95,569	18,57,037	46,820	82,94,054	78,34,532	43,38,763	50,97,695	27,36,037	7,58,932		2,80
1872-73	29,70,417	10,63,847	18,86,960	1,08,779	60,30,003	55,16,109	44,52,262	52,32,684	2,83,420	7,80,427	31,80	3,00
1873-74	31,44,210	10,54,264	19,06,351	88,107	61,92,962	55,78,656	45,24,362	54,21,251	1,57,405	8,96,849	31,23	3,10
1874-75	33,77,668	10,82,570	20,25,126	38,974	65,24,338	59,48,732	48,66,162	55,70,868	3,77,864	7,04,706	31,23	3,40
1875-76	35,98,306	11,44,901	21,20,245	36,382	69,07,834	63,35,301	51,90,400	56,39,310	6,95,991	4,48,910	30,97	3,60
1876-77	37,13,288	12,66,884	21,80,904	37,183	71,38,259	66,58,656	54,81,772	57,87,667	9,00,989	3,05,895	30,71	3,60
1877-78	41,22,910	12,86,136	22,44,945	53,845	77,07,831	72,97,171	60,11,035	60,82,704	12,14,467	71,069	29,33	4,10
1878-79	45,00,924	12,63,017	20,91,107	42,720	78,97,768	74,72,592	62,09,575	65,57,308	9,15,284	3,47,733	26,62	4,30
1879-80	48,37,899	13,48,874	20,47,289	63,822	82,97,884	79,89,726	66,40,852	68,93,435	10,96,291	2,52,583	24,86	4,40
1880-81	48,83,567	13,41,149	25,11,030	53,384	87,89,130	85,33,595	71,92,446	74,14,125	11,19,470	2,21,679	28,74	4,50
1881-82	43,91,285	13,88,929	31,36,104	68,800	90,15,118	87,04,259	73,15,330	79,58,765	7,45,494	6,43,035	35,17	4,70
1882-83	44,50,471	14,99,800	33,77,402	53,297	93,71,972	91,05,935	76,16,133	85,49,226	5,57,709	9,33,093	36,24	5,20
1883-84	47,08,161	15,72,796	26,44,817	57,825	99,47,999	96,60,380	80,80,544	89,42,790	7,19,610	8,53,046	35,64	5,20

Column 2.—These figures represent the net proceeds of the sale of ordinary postage stamps after deducting the sale discount.

Column 3.—The great differences observable in this column are due mainly to changes of system in the treatment of official correspondence, which was charged at full letter rates up to 1864-65. At the same rates as ordinary correspondence (letters and newspapers, &c.), from that year on to 1872-73, after which a low privileged rate of 1 anna for each letter not exceeding 10 tolas (about 4 oz.) was conceded, thus reducing immensely the postage income.

Column 8.—The figures in this column are useful, as showing the revenue undisturbed by the change of system in respect of official correspondence explained in the note referring to column 3.

No. XII.*

of the Post Office Department in India from 1853-54 to 1883-84:

on account of conveyance of passengers or any of the Non-Postal Branches.]

Letter-Boxes.		Village Postmen.		POSTAL LINES.						TOTAL NUMBER OF ARTICLES GIVEN OUT FOR DELIVERY.						ARTICLES FINALLY UNDELIVERED AFTER PASSING THROUGH THE DEAD LETTER OFFICES.		EUROPEAN LETTERS.		Indian share of loss upon subsidy to the P. & O. Co., &c., of Subsidy after deduction of sea postage receipts.
(14)	(15)	Railway.	Mail cart, horses, camels, &c.	Runner or boat lines.	Sea.	Total Mileage.	Letters. ^a	Newspapers.	Parcels.	Packets.	Money Orders.	Total.	Number.	Percentage on total in column 26.	Number of registered periodicals at the end of each year.	Sent to Europe by P. & O. Co.'s steamers.	Received from Europe by P. & O. Co.'s steamers.			
No.	No.	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.		
Three digits omitted in these five columns.																				
							17,260	1,824	296	93		19,473								
			6,127	24,467		30,594	26,392	2,629	463	133		29,618								
		146	5,697	30,470		36,313	29,503	3,133	477	172		33,286								
No information available for this year.							33,863	3,772	492	173		38,302								
		273	5,508	31,152		36,933	37,453	5,272	533	177		43,441								
		532	5,766	33,232		39,530	45,743	6,326	625	243		52,938								
		711	5,862	32,765		39,338	42,637	5,262	564	268		48,733								
		1,046	5,740	36,784		43,570	42,981	4,652	563	292		48,490								
		1,798	4,722	39,034		45,554	42,347	4,229	561	321		47,459								
		2,382	5,247	34,318	5,137	47,084	44,246	4,558	556	341		49,702								
		2,473	5,156	33,853	5,137	46,619	46,907	4,648	556	349		52,462								
		2,904	5,319	33,320	5,332	46,875	51,069	4,917	591	391		56,968								
		3,275	4,967	33,311	5,444	46,997	54,797	5,134	579	402		60,913								
		3,658	4,851	33,976	5,444	47,929	54,057	4,825	562	403		59,849								
		3,995	5,140	34,930	5,613	49,678	62,567	5,411	651	525		69,154								
		4,235	5,460	34,973	5,613	50,281	68,891	5,773	699	623		75,987								
1,022		4,433	5,333	35,498	5,613	50,877	76,867	6,165	764	736		84,534						73,110		
1,608		4,993	4,175	36,911	6,184	52,263	77,303	6,565	694	1,127		85,689						69,150		
1,885		5,063	4,278	35,929	6,367	51,637	80,636	6,840	675	1,409		89,561			430			68,110		
1,291		5,368	3,915	33,400	6,367	49,050	83,127	7,928	653	1,448		93,157			478			61,072		
1,354		5,738	4,003	32,947	11,928	54,616	98,531	8,762	605	1,336		109,235	1,035,440	94	542			54,770		
1,938	1,463	6,138	4,226	31,847	13,687	55,898	104,353	9,365	792	1,608		116,119	922,001	79	610			57,170		
1,447	1,695	6,540	4,176	32,632	13,687	57,044	107,576	9,423	851	1,618		119,470	781,487	66	633	(a)	(a)	53,125		
1,454	1,950	6,938	4,323	33,422	13,687	58,370	110,051	9,880	990	1,619		122,541	691,261	56	644	2,678,592	2,548,795	66,685		
1,574	2,242	7,338	3,781	33,157	13,687	57,963	115,089	10,999	909	1,827		128,826	667,170	51	683	2,626,264	2,978,519	70,749		
1,667	2,601	8,123	3,269	32,875	13,687	57,954	118,599	10,276	998	2,023		131,899	635,901	48		2,862,213	2,873,819	71,051		
1,726	2,702	8,606	3,042	32,284	14,308	58,240	128,567	11,251	1,074	2,085		142,977	658,068	46		3,021,980	3,035,403	83,160		
1,720	2,833	9,455	3,020	31,977	14,308	58,760	143,538	11,942	1,080	2,105		158,666	673,108	43		3,297,421	3,138,473	71,051		
1,990	3,241	9,745	3,303	32,321	14,308	59,677	153,093	12,527	1,152	2,387	2,045	171,804	621,451	36		3,243,047	3,170,123	70,000		
1,996	3,670	9,901	3,648	33,135	14,520	61,204	165,553	14,076	1,312	3,113	2,566	186,620	578,606	31		3,272,930	3,176,926	70,000		
1,998	2,443	10,621	3,880	34,803	14,800	62,536	179,480	15,848	2,086	3,691	2,935	203,340	608,967	29		3,336,127	3,251,652	70,000		

Column 12.—The figures in this column show the proportion of the cash collections in column 4 to the total postal revenue of columns 2, 3, and 4. The column commences with the year 1872-73, when the official postage rate was reduced (see note on column 3) and the whole collected in stamps.

Columns 21 to 26.—Three digits are omitted from the figures in these columns.

Columns 27 and 28.—These figures cannot be given prior to 1873-74, owing to a difference in the system of statistical record.

Column 29.—The registration of newspapers only commenced in the year 1871-72 and ended in 1877-78.

a Revised so as to include letters to Gibraltar, Malta, and places east of Suez.

* Including post-cards from 1879-80.

GOVERNMENT
DEPARTMENT OF P

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE

Provinces.	Districts.	Wheat.			Barley.			Rice (best sort).			Rice (common).			Great Millet (Cholam, Jowar), Holcus Sorghum.			Bulrush Millet (Ch. B., Bhat, Pennellara Sp.).		
		Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1884.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1884.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1884.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1884.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1884.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1884.
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.
MAHARASHTRA.	Ganjam	17 11	17 11	8 13	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	15 6	13 13	13 13	16 5	23 11	21 10	23 11	23 13	23 13	23 13
	Vizagapatam	18 0	18 0	14 0	...	...	...	9 0	9 0	11 3	11 5	11 5	13 10	23 0	26 14	23 0	...	...	...
	Godavary	15 5	18 9	10 13	...	...	...	11 6	14 13	12 14	14 0	16 0	16 0	23 0	26 14	23 0	...	...	...
	Kistna	10 5	10 5	13 5	...	...	...	13 0	13 0	15 11	14 2	14 2	16 5	17 11	17 11	20 5	...	...	...
	Nellore	10 13	11 11	13 10	...	...	...	12 6	12 14	13 14	16 0	14 0	15 0	18 11	19 8	22 10	18 5	20 6	...
	Cuddapah	12 14	13 8	14 5	...	...	...	12 6	12 6	11 8	12 14	12 14	13 6	24 8	25 5	26 2	21 11	21 11	...
	Anantapur	11 8	11 0	13 0	...	...	...	10 8	11 3	12 13	11 2	11 14	15 2	23 11	23 11	31 14	20 11	...	...
	Bellary	17 5	17 5	17 5	...	...	...	11 3	11 3	12 5	12 6	12 6	13 8	23 11	23 11	37 24	24 6	23 8	...
	Kurnool	13 3	13 3	14 0	...	...	...	11 6	11 6	11 6	12 2	12 2	13 2	24 11	24 11	30 2	21 8	20 6	...
	Madras	11 0	11 0	10 8	...	...	...	11 10	11 10	13 8	12 10	12 10	13 2	17 5	16 10	23 0	21 13	21 13	...
	Chingleput	...	...	...	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	14 10	13 10	13 10	15 8	...	...	...	17 3	17 3	...
	North Arcot	9 11	9 11	9 5	...	...	...	13 8	13 2	14 0	15 6	15 6	17 5	...	...	29 2	...	...	...
	South Arcot	8 10	9 0	9 6	...	...	...	11 5	10 14	13 14	11 13	11 13	14 14	...	...	...	18 2	19 10	...
	Tanjore	10 5	9 8	11 13	...	...	...	12 0	11 10	14 2	...	...	...	19 2	19 2	23 13	13 13	13 13	...
	Trichinopoly	9 14	9 14	9 10	...	...	...	11 8	11 3	15 2	12 0	12 0	15 10	...	...	...	17 13	17 13	...
	Madurai	11 11	11 11	13 5	...	...	...	11 13	12 3	14 11	12 3	12 11	15 8	19 6	19 6	...	19 2	19 2	...
	Tinnevely	9 10	9 10	8 14	...	...	...	11 2	11 14	13 14	11 10	12 6	14 13	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Coimbatore	14 13	14 13	14 13	...	...	...	12 10	12 10	13 8	13 2	13 2	14 8	17 6	17 6	23 8	20 11	20 11	...
	Nilgiris	8 8	8 8	9 14	...	...	...	9 10	9 10	10 6	10 6	10 6	12 0	13 14	14 13	8 12	10 12	10 12	...
	Salem	11 14	11 14	14 6	...	...	...	10 13	10 13	14 10	13 3	13 3	15 0	21 18	20 29	21 19	11 19	11 19	...
	South Canara	10 5	10 5	10 5	...	...	...	9 8	9 11	9 11	13 8	13 11	12 11	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Mamhar	10 6	10 2	8 10	...	...	...	12 10	13 10	13 13	13 6	13 6	14 10	...	...	...	...	...	...
PUNJAB.	Bombay	12 0	12 2	10 9	20 0	19 2	19 2	8 0	7 12	7 4	11 11	11 9	13 0	20 9	18 12	18 14	15 3	14 11	14 15
	Ahmedabad	15 8	16 0	13 0	25 0	25 0	25 0	6 8	6 8	6 8	11 8	11 8	10 0	20 0	22 0	18 0	16 8	18 0	...
	Kaira	15 4	15 4	13 5	29 1	29 1	24 10	9 2	9 2	8 14	13 0	13 11	7 1	21 5	17 20	0 17	12 16	14 14	...
	Surat	18 3	18 3	10 5	30 0	12 8	11 6	7 5	7 5	7 5	8 3	8 3	8 3	17 12	17 12	15 3	14 14	14 14	...
	Broach	20 0	20 0	12 0	...	...	...	9 12	9 12	9 12	12 12	12 12	12 12	16 0	16 0	0 16	0 13	12 13	...
	Tanna (Salsette)	11 5	11 5	10 5	16 0	16 0	10 8	7 4	7 4	8 3	8 0	8 0	9 0	16 0	16 0	0 16	13 13	12 12	...
	Colaba (Pauvel)	10 8	10 8	10 8	9 5	9 5	10 0	9 12	9 12	11 0	11 12	11 12	11 12	...	...	...	14 0	14 0	...
	Colaba (Alibeg)	9 8	9 8	8 0	...	...	...	6 0	6 0	6 8	11 8	11 8	10 8	27 4	27 4	18 13	13 1	13 1	...
	Khandesh (Dhulia)	20 8	23 10	18 12	...	...	...	7 4	7 4	7 2	11 0	11 0	10 12	27 4	27 4	18 13	13 1	13 1	...
	Nasik	17 2	20 2	17 0	...	...	...	10 6	10 0	7 7	11 15	11 15	11 0	...	...	...	18 6	18 6	...
	Ahmednagar	15 10	16 4	17 5	...	...	...	8 3	8 4	8 11	9 12	10 7	10 6	21 0	21 14	17 6	16 14	17 10	...
	Poona	13 13	14 15	12 10	9 4	9 4	9 4	9 12	9 12	9 13	11 0	11 0	10 7	17 6	18 15	4 16	2 16	2 16	...
	Sholapur	15 6	15 6	15 13	...	...	...	10 7	10 7	10 6	11 5	11 5	11 5	22 7	24 9	15 13	4 19	4 19	...
	Dhulepur (Bargaloti)	16 8	16 8	22 0	13 8	13 8	18 0	7 8	7 8	7 12	10 8	10 8	10 8	20 0	20 0	8 29	8 19	8 20	...
	Satara	12 11	13 6	14 11	...	...	...	9 9	9 9	8 3	11 7	11 7	10 0	15 6	14 10	4 14	4 14	4 14	...
	Pilgram	15 0	16 0	19 1	12 0	12 8	15 0	11 8	11 8	14 0	12 8	12 8	14 8	17 8	17 8	21 0	16 0	16 0	...
	Dharwar (Havli)	17 0	19 0	23 0	...	...	...	12 0	12 0	13 0	13 0	13 0	16 0	19 0	19 0	27 0	17 0	17 0	...
	Ratnagiri	...	11 14	10 9	...	...	...	...	9 4	8 9	...	...	12 0	9 14	...	14 6	13 10	...	...
	Kanara (Karwar)	13 8	14 0	9 0	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	7 0	14 12	15 0	12 0	18 0	18 0	...	13 0	13 0	...
	Panch Mahals (Godhra)	14 0	14 8	11 0	...	...	...	11 6	11 6	9 0	13 5	13 5	13 5	22 13	26 0	23 17	13 20	...	...
BENGAL.	Aden	8 0	8 0	7 0	...	...	...	5 10	5 10	5 10	6 3	6 3	6 3	8 10	8 10	9 5	5 9	5 9	...
	Amritsar	20 0	20 0	14 0	...	...	...	12 4	12 11	11 0	13 13	14 14	13 4	26 5	27 14	21 8	26 5	27 14	...
	Baroda	12 9	13 11	10 8	15 7	15 7	11 10	8 0	7 7	7 9	10 14	10 14	10 8	21 0	21 0	19 8	19 19	19 19	...
	Bia	17 4	17 4	15 8	...	...	...	7 2	7 2	8 10	9 6	9 6	8 2	21 0	21 0	19 8	19 19	19 19	...
	Nimach	23 0	23 0	19 0	35 0	35 0	33 0	8 0	8 0	9 0	9 0	9 0	10 8	32 0	35 0	30 0	23 0	23 0	...
	Nasirabad	21 4	21 6	18 0	30 2	32 6	23 8	6 8	6 8	6 0	7 8	7 8	7 0	33 5	34 0	24 7	21 5	21 5	...
	Rajkot	16 0	17 0	15 8	...	...	...	6 0	6 0	6 6	9 8	9 12	8 0	19 8	19 8	20 8	15 12	16 8	...
	Upper Sindh Frontier	15 2	14 8	14 8	20 0	20 0	25 8	10 0	10 0	10 0	11 2	11 4	11 4	21 0	20 0	18 0	17 0	16 0	...
	Kutchi	14 8	14 0	14 0	22 0	22 0	19 0	8 14	8 0	8 0	15 0	15 0	14 0	24 0	24 0	22 0	24 0	24 0	...
	Haidarabad (Nakur)	18 0	18 0	16 0	24 0	22 0	22 0	11 0	11 0	12 4	15 0	15 0	14 0	24 0	24 0	22 0	24 0	24 0	...
	Shikarpur	14 14	14 10	14 0	24 0	21 0	23 0	11 14	11 0	11 6	16 8	12 0	12 0	19 8	21 0	21 8	24 12	25 8	...
	Sukkur	17 0	16 0	16 0	28 0	25 0	24 0	12 0	13 0	10 0	14 0	16 0	13 0	21 0	23 0	23 0	23 0	23 0	...
	Thar & Parkar (Umarkot)	16 11	16 0	15 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	20 11	20 0	18 8	...	...	...	21 0	21 0	...
BENGAL.	Western Districts.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Bardwan	17 0	16 8	15 12	...	...	26 0	13 5	13 4	13 8	16 0	15 2	17 4	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Baouerah	16 0	16 0	16 8	18 0	18 0	19 0	14 8	14 8	15 8	17 0	17 0	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Beerboom	17 4	18 0	16 5	...	...	...	12 0	11 4	12 12	13 12	13 13	15 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Midnapore	12 0	16 0	12 0	20 0	24 0	20 0	14 0	14 0	14 0	18 0	17 0	18 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Hooghly	16 0	16 0	18 0	...	...	...	9 0	9 0	8 0	13 8	12 0	14 0	...	...	...	...	...	...
BENGAL.	Howrah	16 12	16 8	14 5	...	...	...	11 4	11 0	11 8	13 0	12 8	14 4	...	...	...	...	...	...

a In the sub-divisions the retail prices of salt per rupee were:—Chitra 14 seers, Cutwa 12 seers, and Manegunge 12 seers.
 b In the interior the retail price of salt in some thanas was 12 seers and in others 13 seers per rupee.
 c In the interior the retail price of salt ranged from 10 seers to 13 seers per rupee.

DATA FOR THE 2nd HALF OF MAY 1886.

SEEDS OF 80 TOLAHS.

* In common use.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT

QUANTITIES PER RU

		QUANTITIES PER RU																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																									
Province.	Districts.	Wheat.			Barley.			Rice (best sort).			Rice (common).			Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), Holcus Sorghum.			Bairah, Maize (Chukar, Bajra, Pennisetia)																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																										
		Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1884.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1884.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1884.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1884.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1884.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1884.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1884.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																					
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. 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S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.

SEEDS OF 80 TOLAHES.

1950-1951

a In the interior the retail price of salt ranged from 8 to 12-4 seers per rupee.
 a In the Brahmunhera and Chhapra sub-divisions the retail price of salt was 12-8 seers per rupee.
 g In the sub-divisions the retail prices of salt per rupee were:—Jeharabad and Aurangabad 11-5 seers, and Nowad 10 seers.
 g In the sub-divisions the retail prices of salt per rupee were:—Buxar and Basarrah 11-8 seers, and Bhabhua 11 seers.
 a In the Jagpore and Machhiana sub-divisions the retail price of salt was 11 seers per rupee.
 a In the sub-divisions the retail prices of salt per rupee were:—Saktamurhee 12 seers, and Hujapore 12-6 seers.
 a In the sub-divisions the retail prices of salt per rupee were:—Sowad 11-8 seers, and Gopnigunge 9-12 seers.
 a In the sub-divisions the retail prices of salt per rupee were:—Dehagrat 11 seers and Janam 12 seers.
 a In the Kachhunge sub-division the retail price of salt was 10 seers per rupee.
 a In the sub-divisions the retail prices of salt per rupee were:—Banka 10 seers, Madhupura 10-8 seers, and Soopole 11 seers.
 a In the sub-divisions the retail prices of salt per rupee were:—Deoghur 13 seers, Godda and Rajmahal 11 seers, and Pakur 10-8 seers.
 a In the Bhabruck sub-division the retail price of salt was 18 seers per rupee.
 a The retail price of salt at Kharackalla in the Giridi sub-division was 12 seers per rupee.
 a The retail price of salt at Bahungunge is 10 seers per rupee.
 a In the Chaudhpore sub-division the retail price of salt was 12 seers per rupee.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT

		QUANTITIES PER RU																																			
		Wheat.						Barley.						Rice (best sort).						Rice (common).						Great Millet (Cholum, Jowar), Holcus Sorghum.						Burrash (Cholum, Jowar), Pennisetum.					
Districts.		Present fortnight.		Past fortnight.		Corresponding fortnight of 1884.		Present fortnight.		Past fortnight.		Corresponding fortnight of 1884.		Present fortnight.		Past fortnight.		Corresponding fortnight of 1884.		Present fortnight.		Past fortnight.		Corresponding fortnight of 1884.		Present fortnight.		Past fortnight.		Corresponding fortnight of 1884.		Present fortnight.		Past fortnight.		Corresponding fortnight of 1884.	
		S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.		
ASSAM.	Silhet	13	2	13	4	12	8	...	...	...	...	13	2	13	4	11	0	20	0	18	12	15	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Cocher	10	10	10	9	8	0	...	...	...	10	10	10	0	10	0	11	13	14	0	14	4	13	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Goolporá	20	0	20	0	21	4	...	...	...	...	...	6	0	6	0	8	0	11	0	11	0	14	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Gázo Hills	...	...	...	...	4	0	...	...	...	...	...	6	0	6	0	8	0	11	0	11	0	14	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Kámpir	16	0	16	0	13	0	...	...	...	...	...	10	0	10	0	11	0	11	0	11	0	13	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Darrang	7	0	7	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	0	8	0	7	0	11	0	11	0	13	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Nowgong	8	0	8	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	0	6	0	8	0	10	8	12	0	13	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Sihágar	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	0	8	0	9	0	10	8	12	0	13	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Lakhimpur	9	0	8	0	10	0	...	...	...	...	10	0	11	0	10	0	8	0	13	0	12	0	11	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Khás & Jaintia Hills	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	8	8	0	7	0	11	0	12	0	10	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nága Hills	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	0	4	0	4	0	8	0	8	0	3	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
N.W. PROVINCES.	Dehra Dún	21	0	21	0	18	8	31	0	31	0	25	0	7	0	7	0	6	8	12	8	12	8	10	0	23	0	26	0	24	0	26	0	26	0	26	0
	Sháhánpur	24	14	24	14	21	8	32	4	32	4	25	13	8	9	8	9	7	8	12	8	12	8	10	0	27	8	27	8	23	2	27	8	27	8	27	8
	Muzaffarnagar	24	6	24	10	20	4	35	5	35	5	30	12	6	8	6	8	6	0	14	0	14	0	12	0	26	0	26	0	26	0	26	0	26	0	26	0
	Meerut	23	0	24	0	20	0	35	0	36	0	26	0	6	8	6	8	6	0	14	0	14	0	12	0	26	0	26	0	26	0	26	0	26	0	26	0
	Bulandshahr	26	4	26	0	20	8	35	4	37	8	27	8	6	8	6	0	6	0	10	0	10	0	10	0	28	0	28	0	22	8	22	8	22	8	22	8
	Aligarh	24	0	25	0	19	4	35	0	36	0	26	8	6	0	6	0	6	0	12	0	12	0	10	0	28	0	28	0	22	8	22	8	22	8	22	8
	Kanoun	16	0	16	0	13	0	17	0	17	0	16	0	10	8	10	8	9	8	11	0	11	0	10	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Garhwál	18	0	14	0	15	0	22	0	18	0	17	8	8	0	8	0	8	0	15	8	15	8	12	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Bijnor	23	14	24	3	10	6	36	9	37	2	24	12	13	8	13	8	9	9	15	3	15	3	10	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Meerut bad	25	10	26	8	20	16	38	8	38	8	29	4	10	4	10	4	8	0	15	8	15	8	12	8	31	0	31	0	30	8	30	8	30	8	30	8
	Budaun	25	12	27	9	20	11	36	0	42	0	27	9	6	4	6	4	5	0	14	6	14	1	11	14	30	0	32	0	33	0	27	8	27	8	27	8
	Baráilly	22	8	26	4	20	5	32	8	38	4	30	0	6	4	6	4	5	0	14	6	14	1	11	14	30	0	32	0	33	0	27	8	27	8	27	8
	Sháhjánpur	25	14	26	8	23	0	40	0	43	4	34	8	8	0	8	0	8	4	18	8	18	8	13	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Tarái Pergunnahs	27	8	27	8	21	14	43	12	50	0	32	8	8	2	8	12	8	3	16	4	16	4	12	8	40	0	43	12	38	0	40	0	40	0	40	0
	Muttra	23	0	23	0	19	0	33	8	33	8	25	8	8	0	8	0	7	0	14	8	14	8	11	8	32	0	32	0	24	0	30	0	30	0	30	0
	Agra	21	0	22	0	18	0	29	0	29	0	24	8	5	0	5	0	5	0	10	0	10	0	10	0	28	0	28	0	23	0	23	0	23	0	23	0
	Farrukhabad	23	6	23	3	21	5	34	8	34	4	26	8	5	7	5	7	6	14	15	3	15	10	12	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Mauipuri	21	8	23	8	20	8	30	0	30	0	26	0	5	0	4	8	4	0	13	0	13	8	8	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Etah	23	3	24	8	20	8	32	0	32	0	24	0	7	12	7	12	7	11	14	12	15	4	11	6	28	0	29	0	26	0	26	0	26	0	26	0
	Jaloun	24	12	25	4	21	15	34	8	35	4	27	12	7	12	7	12	7	11	14	12	15	4	11	6	28	0	29	0	26	0	26	0	26	0	26	0
	Jaloun	26	0	27	0	22	8	35	0	35	0	34	0	9	0	9	0	9	0	11	0	11	0	10	0	29	0	29	0	26	0	26	0	26	0	26	0
	Jaloun	26	8	28	0	23	8	37	12	39	8	30	0	9	0	9	0	9	0	17	0	17	0	12	0	30	0	30	0	26	0	26	0	26	0	26	0
	Jaloun	29	0	30	4	28	0	40	0	40	0	36	0	12	0	10	0	8	0	16	0	14	0	11	0	37	0	37	0	30	0	30	0	30	0	30	0
	Cawnpore	23	12	25	8	21	8	32	0	33	0	29	0	9	0	9	0	9	0	16	8	15	8	12	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Fatehpur	22	0	22	8	19	0	31	0	31	0	26	0	9	8	10	0	9	0	18	0	18	0	12	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Meerut	26	0	28	0	26	8	34	0	40	0	34	0	8	0	8	0	8	0	16	0	16	0	12	0	35	0	37	0	33	0	33	0	33	0	33	0
	Allahabad	23	0	22	14	19	6	30	8	30	4	26	0	11	4	12	6	8	12	16	0	15	8	11	13	33	0	33	1	28	0	33	1	28	0	33	1
	Hanupur	24	7	25	0	25	4	28	13	29	13	23	0	11	4	12	6	8	12	16	0	15	8	11	13	33	0	33	1	28	0	33	1	28	0	33	1
	Jampur	23	0	23	0	14	30	0	30	0	28	4	7	0	7	0	7	1	15	8	15	8	12	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Gorakhpur	24	5	22	8	20	11	26	13	27	14	25	2	15	3	14	5	14	11	17	9	17	14	14	5	18	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Beni	27	0	26	0	21	4	35	0	35	0	29	0	10	0	10	0	8	12	15	0	15	0	11	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Azamgarh	20	10	20	10	18	1	30	4	30	4	25	7	10	5	10	5	10	5	13	4	13	4	12	0	28	0	27	0	23	0	23	0	23	0	23	0
	Mirzapur	19	0	20	0	16	8	26	0	26	0	23	0	8	0	8	0	8	0	13	0	13	0	13	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Benares	19	8	20	1	18	2	26	13	26	9	24	6	10	0	10	0	8	11	13	9	13	9	12	7	30	0	30	0	26	0	26	0	26	0	26	0
	Gorakhpur	21	4	19	16</																																

FOR THE 2nd HALF OF MAY 1885—continued.

MEASURES OF 50 TOLAHS.

Millet, Ragi, Kharra, Veran, etc. Chena, Coran, Pina, Angles, Pasa, Muscum, &c.															Gram.			Firewood.			Salt.						DISTRICTS.			PROVINCES.
Port fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1884.	Present fortnight.		Past fortnight.		Corresponding fortnight of 1884.		Present fortnight.		Past fortnight.		Corresponding fortnight of 1884.		Wholesale.			Retail.			Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1884.								
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.												
																			R. a. p.				R. a. p.	R. a. p.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.			
...	16 0	0	108 0	0	108 0	0	108 0	0	108 0	0	...	...	3 1 0	13 0	12 0	12 8	Sylhet								
...	...	16 0	0	16 0	0	12 8	0	80 0	0	80 0	0	80 0	0	3 7 0	3 7 0	3 4 0	11 10	10 10	10 10	Cachar										
...	...	9 0	0	9 0	0	8 0	0	160 0	0	160 0	0	160 0	0	4 8 0	4 8 0	5 0 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	Goalpara										
...	...	13 0	0	13 0	0	13 0	0	160 0	0	160 0	0	200 0	0	3 2 0	3 5 0	3 8 0	13 0	13 0	12 4	Garo Hills										
...	9 10	0	160 0	0	160 0	0	160 0	0	...	...	4 0 0	13 0	13 0	11 0	Kamrup								
...	11 0	0	125 0	0	125 0	0	120 0	0	...	...	4 4 0	9 0	9 0	9 0	Darrang								
...	8 0	0	160 0	0	160 0	0	80 0	0	...	...	4 0 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	Nowgong								
...	13 0	0	160 0	0	160 0	0	160 0	0	3 4 0	3 8 0	5 0 0	11 0	10 0	8 0	Sibsagar										
...	100 0	0	100 0	0	80 0	0	...	...	5 0 0	8 11	10 0	8 0	Lakhimpur									
...	120 0	0	120 0	0	120 0	0	120 0	0	16 0	16 0	13 0	8 0	3 0	8 0	Khasi & Jaintia Hills										
...	Naga Hills										
...	...	27 0	27 0	25 0	0	160 0	0	160 0	0	160 0	0	160 0	0	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	11 0	11 0	11 0	Dehra Dun										
...	...	29 0	29 0	24 11	0	150 8	150 8	120 0	0	120 0	0	120 0	0	13 7	13 7	13 2	12 14	12 14	12 14	Shaharanpur										
...	...	28 11	28 4	25 5	0	132 0	132 0	132 0	0	132 0	0	132 0	0	13 4	13 4	12 10	12 2	12 2	12 2	Muzaffarnagar										
...	...	27 8	28 0	23 8	0	110 0	110 0	110 0	0	110 0	0	110 0	0	13 8	13 8	12 8	13 0	13 0	13 0	Meerut										
...	...	29 8	29 8	21 8	0	130 0	130 0	120 0	0	120 0	0	120 0	0	13 0	13 0	12 8	...	...	...	Bulandshahr							
...	...	27 8	30 0	31 8	0	160 0	160 0	140 0	0	140 0	0	140 0	0	14 0	14 8	12 8	13 8	14 0	12 0	Aligarh										
...	...	13 0	13 0	12 0	0	200 0	200 0	200 0	0	200 0	0	200 0	0	9 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	7 0	7 8	Kanun										
...	...	8 0	8 0	9 0	0	280 0	280 0	280 0	0	280 0	0	280 0	0	8 8	8 0	9 0	7 12	7 8	8 2	Ghazal										
...	...	25 14	24 12	21 2	0	135 0	135 0	135 0	0	135 0	0	135 0	0	...	...	...	11 8	12 15	12 1	Bijnor							
...	...	25 10	27 0	22 12	0	125 0	125 0	125 0	0	125 0	0	125 0	0	13 4	13 4	12 10	13 0	13 0	13 8	Moradabad										
...	...	27 9	29 6	21 9	0	192 0	192 0	192 0	0	192 0	0	192 0	0	12 0	12 9	11 11	11 6	12 0	11 6	Budaun										
...	...	24 6	27 8	21 14	0	125 0	125 0	150 0	0	150 0	0	150 0	0	10 10	12 13	12 8	10 0	12 8	12 3	Barilly										
...	...	30 0	30 8	24 8	0	160 0	160 0	160 0	0	160 0	0	160 0	0	13 8	13 8	13 0	11 8	11 8	11 4	Shahjahanpur										
...	...	25 0	26 4	21 4	0	120 0	120 0	120 0	0	120 0	0	120 0	0	11 4	12 8	11 14	11 0	12 0	11 8	Tamul Pergunahs										
...	...	31 8	31 8	21 8	0	140 0	140 0	120 0	0	120 0	0	120 0	0	14 0	14 0	14 0	13 0	13 0	13 0	Muttra										
...	...	26 0	26 8	23 4	0	120 0	120 0	100 0	0	100 0	0	100 0	0	14 0	15 0	12 8	13 0	14 0	13 0	Agra										
...	...	27 13	27 14	24 4	0	180 0	180 0	145 0	0	145 0	0	145 0	0	12 9	12 10	12 4	12 4	12 4	11 9	Farakhabad										
...	...	25 0	25 8	21 0	0	160 0	160 0	160 0	0	160 0	0	160 0	0	14 0	14 0	13 8	13 0	13 8	12 0	Mainpuri										
...	...	28 1	30 0	28 0	0	120 0	120 0	100 0	0	100 0	0	100 0	0	13 6	14 0	13 0	13 0	13 8	12 0	Etawah										
...	...	29 8	24 4	22 7	0	155 0	155 0	153 0	0	153 0	0	153 0	0	12 10	13 0	12 2	12 8	13 8	12 3	Etah										
...	...	35 0	36 0	30 0	0	140 0	140 0	140 0	0	140 0	0	140 0	0	12 0	13 0	12 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	Jaloun										
...	...	30 6	31 10	27 4	0	200 0	200 0	200 0	0	200 0	0	200 0	0	12 6	13 0	12 0	11 6	11 0	11 0	Jhansi										
...	...	35 4	35 4	33 14	0	160 0	160 0	160 0	0	160 0	0	160 0	0	12 0	13 0	12 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	Lalitpur										
...	...	30 0	32 0	27 0	0	160 0	160 0	150 0	0	150 0	0	150 0	0	14 4	14 8	13 8	13 12	14 0	13 0	Gawnpore										
...	...	29 8	30 8	26 12	0	160 0	160 0	160 0	0	160 0	0	160 0	0	11 8	11 8	11 0	11 4	11 4	10 12	Fatehpur										
...	...	36 0	39 0	37 0	0	160 0	160 0	160 0	0	160 0	0	160 0	0	12 0	13 0	11 8	11 0	12 0	10 8	Banda										
...	...	29 8	30 2	28 0	0	140 0	150 0	120 0	0	120 0	0	120 0	0	12 0	12 0	12 0	11 0	12 0	11 4	Allahabad										
...	...	32 5	35 0	31 2	0	140 0	140 0	140 0	0	140 0	0	140 0	0	11 15	12 6	10 11	11 4	11 8	10 1	Hamirpur										
...	...	26 0	28 0	21 0	0	155 0	155 0	130 0	0	130 0	0	130 0	0	11 0	11 0	10 12	9 9	9 9	10 10	Jaunpur										
...	...	23 13	23 6	25 3	0	160 0	160 0	160 0	0	160 0	0	160 0	0	11 6	11 0	10 9	11 0	10 6	10 6	Gorakhpur										
...	...	26 0	26 0	24 0	0	160 0	160 0	140 0	0	140 0	0	140 0	0	10 0	10 0	11 0	9 0	9 0	8 0	Basti										
...	...	23 8	22 2	21 6	0	177 8	177 8	177 8	0	177 8	0	177 8	0	11 13	11 13	11 2	11 2	11 2	10 8	Azamgarh										
...	...	24 0	22 0	21 0	0	100 0	100 0	100 0	0	100 0	0	100 0	0	11 0	11 0	11 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	Mirzapur										
...	...	24 11	23 9	22 12	0	100 0	100 0	100 0	0	100 0	0	100 0	0	10 11	10 11	10 11	9 13	9 13	10 2	Benares										
...	...	25 12	26 6	24 7	0	128 12	128 12	128 12	0	128 12	0	128 12	0	11 9	11 9	10 15	10 5	10 5	10 5	Ghazipur										
...	...	25 12	25 12	26 4	0	100 0	100 0	100 0	0	100 0	0	100 0	0	11 13	11 13	11 12	11 8	11 8	11 12	Balia										
...	...	27 8	27 8	20 8	0	150 0	150 0	150 0	0	150 0	0	150 0	0	13 0	13 0	13 0	12 8	12 8	12 8	Philibhit										
...	No return received	Almora									
...	...	32 0	33 0	27 0	0	160 0	160 0	160 0	0	160 0	0	160 0	0	12 12	12 12	12 0	13 8	12 8	11 12	Sultanpur										
...	...	31 11	32 2	24 12	0	180 0	180 0	200 0	0	200 0	0	200 0	0	12 0	13 0	12 0	11 2	11 11	10 13	Partabgarh										
...	...	28 0	27 0	25 12	0	120 0	120 0	120 0	0	120 0	0	120 0	0	13 0	13 0	10 8	11 8	11 8	10 0	Fyzabad										
...	...	30 0	30 0	25 0	0	140 0	140 0	140 0	0	140 0	0	140 0	0	11 8	11 8	11 0	11 0	11 0	10 8	Kheri										
...	...	26 1	26 4	25 0	0	130 0	120 0	130 0	0	130 0	0	130 0	0	12 0	11 8	11 8	11 8	11 0	11 0	Lucknow										
...	...	28 0	27 0	26 0	0	120 0	120 0	120 0	0	120 0	0	120 0	0	12 0	13 0	12 0	11 0	11 0	11 0	Bira Banki										
...	...	21 0	31 0	32 0	0	170 0	170 0	160 0	0	160 0	0	160 0	0	...	...	11 8	11 8	11 0	11 0	Bahraich								
...	...	30 0	30 0	26 8	0	200 0	200 0	220 0	0	220 0	0	220 0	0	...	...	12 0	13 0	10 0	10 0	Rai Bareilly								
...	...	31 8	32 12	27 0	0	160 0	100 0	160 0	0	160 0	0	160 0	0	12 8	13 8	12 8	12 0	12 0	12 0	Sitapur										
...	...	31 0	31 0	27 8	0	160 0	160 0	160 0	0	160 0	0	160 0	0	12 4	13 4	11 8	13 0	13 0	11 4	Gonda										
...	...	30 0	30 0	25 5	0	160 0	160 0	160 0	0	160 0	0	160 0	0	...	...	...	12 0	12 9	11 0	Unao							
...	Hardui										
...	...	33 0	34 0	20 0	0	110 0	110 0	120 0	0	120 0	0	120 0	0	13 8	14 8	13 0	13 0	14 0	12 8	Hissar										
...	...	31 0	30 0	22 0	0	80 0	80 0	80 0	0	80 0	0	80 0	0	13 8	13 8	13 0	12 0	12 0	11 0	Rontak										
...	...	29 0	32 0	23 0	0	140 0	140 0	140 0	0	140 0	0	140 0	0																	

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGH

		QUANTITIES PER MONTH.																																	
Province.	District.	Wheat.			Barley.			Rice (best sort).			Rice (common).			Great Millet (Cholam, Jowar, Zeens Bergam).			Sainfoin (Lambton, Panchulana).																		
		Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1884.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1884.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1884.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1884.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1884.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1884.																
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.															
PUNJAB—continued.	Ferozepore	24	0	25	0	23	0	40	0	40	0	36	0	13	0	12	0	11	0	34	0	34	0	30	0	
	Mooltan	18	0	18	0	18	0	27	0	27	0	26	0	11	0	11	0	10	0	23	0	23	0	24	0	23	0	23	0	23	0	
	Jhang	22	0	25	0	22	0	31	0	32	0	29	0	11	0	10	0	10	0	18	0	18	0	23	0	23	0	30	0	30	0	
	Montgomery	21	0	21	0	20	0	32	0	32	0	30	0	10	0	10	0	9	0	24	0	24	0	23	0	23	0	23	0	23	0	
	Lahore	24	0	24	0	25	0	34	0	37	0	38	0	12	0	12	0	12	0	28	0	28	0	23	0	23	0	23	0	23	0	
	Amritsar	27	0	27	0	26	0	40	0	40	0	37	0	12	0	12	0	11	0	30	0	30	0	23	0	23	0	23	0	23	0	
	Gurdaspur	30	0	28	0	29	0	40	0	40	0	40	0	16	0	14	0	14	0	24	0	24	0	23	0	23	0	23	0	23	0	
	Gujranwala	23	0	24	0	24	0	43	0	45	0	40	0	15	0	15	0	11	0	29	0	29	0	23	0	23	0	23	0	23	0	
	Sialkot	25	0	25	0	26	0	41	0	42	0	40	0	18	0	13	0	13	0	31	0	31	0	40	0	32	0	32	0	32	0	
	Gujrat	30	0	30	0	31	0	44	0	44	0	53	0	12	0	12	0	12	0	41	0	44	0	50	0	44	0	44	0	44	0	
	Rawalpindi	28	0	29	0	32	0	50	0	50	0	48	0	13	0	13	0	12	0	35	0	35	0	50	0	50	0	50	0	50	0	
	Jhelum	28	0	27	0	27	0	42	0	40	0	42	0	14	0	14	0	14	0	31	0	33	0	37	0	33	0	33	0	33	0	
	Shalpur	27	0	27	0	30	0	35	0	36	0	33	0	14	0	14	0	14	0	25	0	26	0	37	0	33	0	33	0	33	0	
	Muzaffargarh	20	0	21	0	20	0	29	0	28	0	27	0	6	0	6	0	6	0	20	0	21	0	19	0	21	0	21	0	21	0	
Dera Ghazi Khan	19	0	19	0	19	0	29	0	27	0	25	0	...	...	...	9	0	9	0	11	0	34	0	33	0	23	0	23	0	23	0	23	0
Dera Ismail Khan	25	0	26	0	25	0	41	0	39	0	38	0	...	...	...	8	0	8	0	8	0	24	0	23	0	33	0	34	0	33	0	33	0
Banna	38	0	39	0	35	0	69	0	73	0	49	0	...	...	...	10	0	10	0	9	0	53	0	53	0	40	0	40	0	40	0	40	0
Kohat	31	0	31	0	31	0	66	0	66	0	49	0	...	...	...	15	0	15	0	13	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Peshawar	27	0	27	0	28	0	47	0	53	0	45	0	...	...	...	13	0	13	0	11	0	32	0	32	0	57	0	35	0	35	0	35	0
Hazara	23	0	30	0	29	0	42	0	44	0	46	0	...	...	...	14	0	14	0	15	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	23	0	30	0	30	0
CENTRAL PROVINCES.	Sagar	30	3	31	13	28	0	...	...	...	...	12	9	12	6	10	0	13	13	13	11	11	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Danab	34	4	32	0	32	8	...	...	...	...	17	2	17	12	12	8	18	7	20	0	13	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Jalbulore	22	0	22	0	24	0	...	...	...	...	12	8	12	0	10	0	16	0	15	8	12	8	23	0	26	0	26	0	...	...	...	...
	Mandla	27	8	25	0	32	0	...	...	...	...	16	0	15	0	13	0	18	0	18	0	18	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Seoni	23	9	22	6	27	0	...	...	...	...	12	13	12	13	13	8	17	15	17	15	17	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Narsinghpur	...	19	2	22	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	12	12	8	9	0	13	12	14	15	11	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Roshanabad	30	3	...	20	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	7	8	7	4	8	14	12	0	10	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Nimar	23	4	23	4	22	11	...	...	...	...	...	4	8	4	8	12	9	13	10	15	4	14	24	13	24	13	23	7	...	...	...	...
	Betul	22	0	22	0	24	0	12	1	12	1	12	0	12	8	12	8	13	0	28	0	29	0	22	0	
	Chhindwara	22	0	24	0	25	0	8	0	9	0	9	8	12	0	14	0	13	0	35	0	24	0	27	0	
	Wardha	...	24	0	26	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	14	9	0	...	...	11	7	11	0	...	...	20	14	25	0	...	...	...	...
	Nagpur	23	2	22	8	22	12	9	1	9	6	9	12	15	0	13	9	14	12	28	3	29	1	34	13	
	Chanda	25	6	26	2	24	0	11	4	12	0	10	0	18	0	19	0	17	0	25	5	27	13	34	0
	Bhandara	25	4	27	0	24	8	
Bilaspur	28	13	27	9	23	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	12	13	2	14	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rajpur	33	10	35	0	30	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	16	4	16	4	16	0	24	5	21	5	22	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bilaspur	14	6	53	4	45	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	21	6	22	6	23	8	31	8	31	8	31	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sambalpur	26	4	23	13	24	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	22	4	21	0	23	8	23	0	26	4	26	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
ARUNACHAL DIVISION.	Akyab	12	0	12	0	12	0	16	8	16	8	15	0	
	Northern Arakan	No return received	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	7	13	15	12	7	13	15	14	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Kyaukpada	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17	2	17	2	...	...	22	14	19	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Sandaway	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Pegu Division.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18	4	16	0	11	4	16	10	16	8	12	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Rangoon Town	20	9	20	9	12	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	14	8	9	7	9	12	1	13	1	9	14	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Pegu	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	14	11	14	7	2	11	15	17	13	7	14	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Therawaddy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14	15	14	15	11	8	17	2	17	2	11	15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Prone	17	2	17	2	18	3	
	Imawaddy Division.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	5	15	6	12	13	16	14	18	2	15	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Bassein	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	15	11	15	10	4	15	10	15	10	15	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Henzada	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	12	10	12	9	6	17	7	17	7	10	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Thamesa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	12	14	6	10	8	12	7	16	9	13	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Thanyetago	15	1	20	1	9	4	
Tenasserim Division.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Maungmye Town & Amherst	9	0	9	0	9	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	8	11	8	9	11	13	8	13	8	12	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tavoy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	12	12	6	...	...	21	0	16	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Mergui	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16	4	16	4	14	9	18	14	18	14	16	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tanungoo	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	10	10	10	10	10	12	13	12	13	12	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Shwepyithar	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	13	11	9	8	8	11	5	13	13	9	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Saigon	No return received	...	...</																														

* Return not received.

MA FOR THE 2nd HALF OF MAY 1885 —continued.

TERS OF 80 TOLANS.

† No inorganic salt sold.

PRICES CURRENT OF FOOD-GRAINS THROUGHOUT

QUANTITIES PER RUPEE

PROVINCE.	DISTRICTS.	QUANTITIES PER RUPEE																							
		Wheat.						Barley.						Rice (best sort).						Rice (common).					
		Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1884.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1884.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1884.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1884.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1884.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1884.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1884.	Present fortnight.	Past fortnight.	Corresponding fortnight of 1884.
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.
MYSORE.	Bangalore	11 8	11 4	11 3	12 5	12 5	12 12	9 0	8 13	9 10	10 0	9 13	10 11	20	4 19	11 24	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Kolar	11 0	14 0	14 0	13 0	12 0	12 0	10 0	10 4	12 4	12 0	12 0	16 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Tumkur	10 0	10 0	10 8	...	...	...	10 8	10 8	11 14	11 4	11 4	13 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Mysore	12 10	13 10	14 11	14 11	14 11	14 11	12 10	12 10	13 10	14 11	14 11	16 13	23	1 23	1 37	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Shimoga	12 0	12 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	11 0	14 0	15 0	15 0	16 0	16 0	17 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Kadur	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
COORG.	Coorg	9 12	9 10	8 12	9 12	13 8	10 2	12 13	12 4	12 14	16 6	15 8	18 3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Jessore	19 0	19 0	17 4	26 0	26 0	23 0	6 0	6 0	6 0	9 0	9 0	8 8	30	0 33	0 22	0 23	0 23	0 23	0 23	0 23	0 23	0 23	0 23	0 23
	Kishengurh	20 8	21 12	16 0	27 4	28 0	22 0	9 0	9 0	9 0	10 0	10 0	10 0	31	0 30	0 21	0 25	0 22	0 22	0 22	0 22	0 22	0 22	0 22	0 22
	Kerrowlee	19 6	21 10	18 12	26 9	26 14	25 0	15 0	15 0	10 0	16 4	16 4	11 4	27	8 23	14 23	12 21	14 27	14 27	14 27	14 27	14 27	14 27	14 27	14 27
	Uttur	22 4	22 6	18 0	30 5	30 12	23 8	6 12	6 12	7 7	12 1	12 0	10 8	35	0 37	0 22	0 28	0 24	0 24	0 24	0 24	0 24	0 24	0 24	0 24
	Bhadrupore (City)	21 7	22 2	18 7	30 4	30 4	24 3	7 2	7 4	7 6	8 0	8 0	8 5	28	13 29	4 23	3 29	4 29	4 29	4 29	4 29	4 29	4 29	4 29	4 29
	Ajmere	18 8	18 8	15 8	27 0	26 8	22 0	3 0	3 0	5 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	22	0 32	0 23	0 20	0 22	0 22	0 22	0 22	0 22	0 22	0 22	0 22
	Deoli Cantonment	25 12	25 15	22 11	36 1	38 0	30 12	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	9 4	41	0 42	14 23	0 34	0 34	0 34	0 34	0 34	0 34	0 34	0 34	0 34
	Erinpura	20 8	21 6	16 5	31 8	32 4	25 2	...	...	...	7 8	7 8	8 1	22	0 27	4 20	0 30	0 33	0 33	0 33	0 33	0 33	0 33	0 33	0 33
	Sirohee	30 0	20 0	14 8	33 0	25 0	25 0	6 0	6 0	6 0	8 0	8 0	7 8	19	0 19	0 18	0 22	0 22	0 22	0 22	0 22	0 22	0 22	0 22	0 22
	Alu	16 0	16 0	13 8	23 8	22 8	20 8	6 4	6 0	6 0	8 0	8 0	7 8	...	...	...	17	0 17	0 17	0 17	0 17	0 17	0 17	0 17	0 17
	Asotra	18 4	18 0	15 0	25 8	25 8	23 8	5 8	5 8	5 4	8 8	8 8	7 8	...	...	...	32	0 32	0 32	0 32	0 32	0 32	0 32	0 32	0 32
	Balmere	18 2	18 2	13 12	...	...	...	9 8	9 8	...	12 0	12 0	...	26	0 25	0	20	12 20	12 20	12 20	12 20	12 20	12 20	12 20	12 20
	Jeyashimere	12 8	12 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14 0	15 0	12 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Hilly Tracts of Meywar	26 0	25 0	20 0	32 0	32 0	22 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
RAJPOOTANA.	Meywar (Oodypore)	23 0	23 7	17 9	34 2	32 13	24 2	10 2	10 2	9 6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Bikanera (Meywar Agency)	33 2	33 12	23 12	...	...	...	7 8	7 8	10 0	17 8	17 8	16 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Partalgorh	25 10	29 11	19 1	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	9 1	12 8	13 7	11 14	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Marnar (Jodhpore)	18 0	18 0	15 0	25 0	25 0	20 0	5 0	5 0	5 0	7 8	7 8	7 8	25	0 23	12 17	8 21	4 21	4 21	4 21	4 21	4 21	4 21	4 21	4 21
	Bikaner	15 0	15 0	13 0	...	...	...	3 12	3 12	3 11	6 0	6 0	6 11	...	...	...	18	6 19	6 19	6 19	6 19	6 19	6 19	6 19	6 19
	Loodice	31 0	31 0	28 12	48 0	48 0	42 8	9 0	9 0	7 8	9 8	9 8	8 0	50	0 50	0 33	8 25	0 25	0 25	0 25	0 25	0 25	0 25	0 25	0 25
	Kotah	32 0	32 0	26 0	40 0	40 0	35 0	7 8	7 8	7 0	8 0	8 0	9 0	50	0 50	0 34	0 25	0 25	0 25	0 25	0 25	0 25	0 25	0 25	0 25
	Tonk	24 8	24 8	21 8	33 12	35 0	29 12	7 8	7 8	6 8	8 8	8 8	6 8	40	0 43	8 29	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Jhalawar	28 5	28 5	23 12	33 10	35 13	28 4	9 2	9 8	9 0	11 6	11 4	12 12	34	0 40	0 27	8 23	0 23	0 23	0 23	0 23	0 23	0 23	0 23	0 23
	Bharatpur	25 4	25 0	21 6	35 0	42 8	28 4	10 2	10 2	10 2	12 2	12 6	11 4	31	12 33	15 21	16 34	14 37	14 37	14 37	14 37	14 37	14 37	14 37	14 37
	Dholpur	20 12	20 15	18 0	31 12	33 15	23 10	10 2	10 2	10 2	12 2	12 6	11 4	31	12 33	15 21	16 34	14 37	14 37	14 37	14 37	14 37	14 37	14 37	14 37
CENTRAL INDIA.	Indore	21 8	22 0	21 14	...	...	...	9 0	9 0	9 2	10 0	10 0	10 14	25	0 30	0 28	3 23	0 24	0 24	0 24	0 24	0 24	0 24	0 24	0 24
	Gwalior	21 9	23 1	17 8	29 11	31 0	21 15	8 2	8 4	7 9	10 1	10 1	9 15	23	5 28	5 21	15 31	11 32	11 32	11 32	11 32	11 32	11 32	11 32	11 32
	Ujjain	22 8	22 0	27 0	25 0	23 0	22 0	10 8	11 0	8 0	11 8	12 0	9 0	38	0 37	8 35	0 20	0 20	0 20	0 20	0 20	0 20	0 20	0 20	0 20
	Baghelkhand (Satna)	25 0	25 8	27 0	35 0	36 4	25 12	8 0	8 1	7 0	18 0	19 0	18 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE,
(Statistical Branch.)

IN BEERS OF 80 TOLANS.

• Eight pics per bundle.

D. BARBOUR,
Secretary to the Government of India.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

Comparative Statement of the Net Indian Sea and Land Customs Revenue (excluding Salt Revenue) for the first two months of the official year 1885-86, and of the fourteen preceding years.
(IN THOUSANDS OF RUPEES.)

FOR THE TWO MONTHS, APRIL AND MAY.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																						
YEAR.	BOMBAY.										MADRAS.										SINGAPORE.										TOTAL BRITISH INDIA.									YEAR.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																														
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1871-72.	1.66	11.63	3.51	16.79	1.46	4.93	88	7.37	18	16	24	57	5.51	2.06	2.86	5.51	25	73	6.01	6.99	4.12	19.49	23.61	13.52	37.13	1871-72.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																												

* The amount referred to is greater than the duty collected.

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND COMMERCE,
STATISTICAL BRANCH;
Calcutta, 24th June 1885.

D. M. BARBOUR,
Secretary to the Government of India.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.
RAILWAY TRAFFIC.

RULES FOR THE INTERCHANGE OF ROLLING STOCK.

No. 527 R.T., dated Simla, 13th June 1885.

RESOLUTION—By the Government of India, Public Works Department.

Read again—

Public Works Department Resolution No. 1002 R.T., dated the 10th October 1882.

Read also—

Letter No. 227T., dated the 16th May 1885, and enclosure, from the Director General of Railways.

OBSERVATIONS.—A difference of opinion having arisen as to the interpretation of certain of the rules for the interchange of rolling stock between connected broad-gauge railways, passed at the Railway Conference of 1882, and circulated with Public Works Department Resolution No. 1002 R.T., dated 10th October 1882, the Director General of Railways, acting in accordance with Clause 9 of the orders for the conduct of business at the Railway Conference, invited the opinions of the Agents of Railway Companies on the doubtful points, and the following interpretations have been decided upon:—

- (1) *Rule XVII.*—No mileage charge shall be made on dummy wagons not earning freight.
- (2) *Rules XVII and XVI (c).*—Mileage on light loaded wagons, accepted for through running by mutual consent of Traffic Managers, shall be paid on the actual weight charged for.
- (3) *Rule XII.*—Extra passenger vehicles attached, for the use of troops, to ordinary trains shall not be regarded as “ordinary traffic” under Rule XII (b), and no mileage shall therefore be charged on such vehicles unless under load.
- (4) *Rule XII.*—Horse-boxes, carriage trucks, prison vans and hospital carriages shall be regarded as “ordinary traffic,” under Rule XII (b), when attached to the regular advertised trains, and mileage shall then be paid on them in both directions. When attached to other than the regular advertised trains, no mileage shall be charged on such vehicles unless under load.

ORDER.—Ordered, that this Resolution be communicated to the Govern-

The Governments of Madras, Bombay, Bengal, the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, and the Punjab.
The Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces.
The Residents, Hyderabad and Mysore.
The Director General of Railways.
The Consulting Engineers to the Government of India for Guaranteed Railways.

ments, Administrations and Officers marginally noted for information and guidance; and to the Chief Commissioners of Assam and British Burma, the Agents to the Governor General for Rajputana, Central In-

dia and Biluchistan, and the Departments of the Government of India for information.

Ordered also, that this Resolution be communicated to the Secretary of State, and published for general information in the Supplement to the *Gazette of India*.

HENRY A. BROWNLOW, Colonel, R.E.,
Offg. Secretary.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.
IRRIGATION BRANCH.

IRRIGATION OPERATIONS IN BENGAL FOR THE OFFICIAL YEAR 1884-85.

Areas leased for irrigation up to the end of December 1884.

Circles.	District.	Canal.	Estimated full discharge.	Average discharge in month.	Discharge utilized.	Area of land irrigated during the year up to the end of the month.	Appraisal made area of land irrigated under the same state last year.	DETAILS OF AREAS LEASED.										RAINFALL, 1884-85.		Remarks.	
								Five years. All crops.	Five years. Kharif.	Khar. reet.	Rubber- case.	Shadool.	Hot weather.	Total.	Grand Total.	During month.	Up to end of month.	During month.	Up to end of month.		
Orissa.	Cuttack.	Kendrapara.	C. H. 1,200	237.19	104.64	24,508	10,003	Act. 31,771	Act. 21	Act. 31	Act. 183	Act. 17	Act. 17	Act. 17	Act. 17	Act. 17	Act. 17	Act. 17	Act. 17	Rubber and hot weather leases for 2,923 and 2 acres respectively expired in the month of November last, and are not shown in this statement.	
		Khurda.	1,043	32.6	30.00	8,001	4,073	Act. 12,978	Act. 1	Act. 1	Act. 1	Act. 1	Act. 1	Act. 1	Act. 1	Act. 1	Act. 1	Act. 1	Act. 1		
		High Level, Sec- tion I.	676	126.77	126.77	12,400	12,400	Act. 12,978	Act. 1	Act. 1	Act. 1	Act. 1	Act. 1	Act. 1	Act. 1	Act. 1	Act. 1	Act. 1	Act. 1		
		Talidunda, 1st Reet.	1,248	107	0.81	2,346	2,404	Act. 1,300	Act. 17	Act. 17	Act. 17	Act. 17	Act. 17	Act. 17	Act. 17	Act. 17	Act. 17	Act. 17	Act. 17		
		Talidunda, 2nd Reet.	800	9.76	1.64	2,140	2,140	Act. 9,097	Act. 4	Act. 4	Act. 4	Act. 4	Act. 4	Act. 4	Act. 4	Act. 4	Act. 4	Act. 4	Act. 4		
SOUTH- WESTERN.	Balasore.	Marching.	770	7.86	7.86	2,140	2,140	Act. 9,097	Act. 4	Act. 4	Act. 4	Act. 4	Act. 4	Act. 4	Act. 4	Act. 4	Act. 4	Act. 4	Act. 4	Whole month discharging. Eight days discharging.	
		High Level, Sec- tion II.	737.10	9.86	9.86	2,300	4,410	Act. 2,370	Act. 114	Act. 114	Act. 114	Act. 114	Act. 114	Act. 114	Act. 114	Act. 114	Act. 114	Act. 114	Act. 114		
		High Level, Sec- tion III.	737.10	9.86	9.86	2,300	4,410	Act. 2,370	Act. 114	Act. 114	Act. 114	Act. 114	Act. 114	Act. 114	Act. 114	Act. 114	Act. 114	Act. 114	Act. 114		
		Total.	1,411	21	21	54,907	66,737	Act. 82,104	Act. 21	Act. 21	Act. 183	Act. 17	Act. 17	Act. 17	Act. 17	Act. 17	Act. 17	Act. 17	Act. 17		
		Total of the corresponding period of last year.	1,411	21	21	54,907	66,737	Act. 82,104	Act. 21	Act. 21	Act. 183	Act. 17	Act. 17	Act. 17	Act. 17	Act. 17	Act. 17	Act. 17	Act. 17		Act. 17
SOUTH- WESTERN.	Midnapore.	Midnapore.	1,411	21	21	54,907	66,737	Act. 82,104	Act. 21	Act. 21	Act. 183	Act. 17	Act. 17	Act. 17	Act. 17	Act. 17	Act. 17	Act. 17	Act. 17	Whole month discharging. Eight days discharging.	
		Bankchurn.	1,411	21	21	54,907	66,737	Act. 82,104	Act. 21	Act. 21	Act. 183	Act. 17	Act. 17	Act. 17	Act. 17	Act. 17	Act. 17	Act. 17	Act. 17		Act. 17
		Total.	1,411	21	21	54,907	66,737	Act. 82,104	Act. 21	Act. 21	Act. 183	Act. 17	Act. 17	Act. 17	Act. 17	Act. 17	Act. 17	Act. 17	Act. 17		Act. 17
		Rangees I and II.	1,411	21	21	54,907	66,737	Act. 82,104	Act. 21	Act. 21	Act. 183	Act. 17	Act. 17	Act. 17	Act. 17	Act. 17	Act. 17	Act. 17	Act. 17		Act. 17
		Total.	1,411	21	21	54,907	66,737	Act. 82,104	Act. 21	Act. 21	Act. 183	Act. 17	Act. 17	Act. 17	Act. 17	Act. 17	Act. 17	Act. 17	Act. 17		Act. 17
SOUTH- WESTERN.	Total of the corresponding period of last year.	Western Main.	4,943	1,432	338	21,074	20,000	Act. 20,000	Act. 437	Act. 437	Act. 437	Act. 437	Act. 437	Act. 437	Act. 437	Act. 437	Act. 437	Act. 437	Act. 437	Whole month discharging. Eight days discharging.	
		Ruar.	1,235	324	229	79,505	82,015	Act. 25,071	Act. 2,241	Act. 2,241	Act. 2,241	Act. 2,241	Act. 2,241	Act. 2,241	Act. 2,241	Act. 2,241	Act. 2,241	Act. 2,241	Act. 2,241		Act. 2,241
		Arrah.	1,000	843	648	128,941	130,134	Act. 43,673	Act. 10,031	Act. 10,031	Act. 10,031	Act. 10,031	Act. 10,031	Act. 10,031	Act. 10,031	Act. 10,031	Act. 10,031	Act. 10,031	Act. 10,031		Act. 10,031
		Eastern Main.	1,468	866	645	69,356	40,677	Act. 10,791	Act. 3,008	Act. 3,008	Act. 3,008	Act. 3,008	Act. 3,008	Act. 3,008	Act. 3,008	Act. 3,008	Act. 3,008	Act. 3,008	Act. 3,008		Act. 3,008
		Total.	8,246	2,425	1,616	284,400	268,607	Act. 89,183	Act. 26,006	Act. 26,006	Act. 26,006	Act. 26,006	Act. 26,006	Act. 26,006	Act. 26,006	Act. 26,006	Act. 26,006	Act. 26,006	Act. 26,006		Act. 26,006
SOUTH- WESTERN.	Total of the corresponding period of last year.	Western Main.	4,943	1,432	338	21,074	20,000	Act. 20,000	Act. 437	Act. 437	Act. 437	Act. 437	Act. 437	Act. 437	Act. 437	Act. 437	Act. 437	Act. 437	Act. 437	Whole month discharging. Eight days discharging.	
		Ruar.	1,235	324	229	79,505	82,015	Act. 25,071	Act. 2,241	Act. 2,241	Act. 2,241	Act. 2,241	Act. 2,241	Act. 2,241	Act. 2,241	Act. 2,241	Act. 2,241	Act. 2,241	Act. 2,241		Act. 2,241
		Arrah.	1,000	843	648	128,941	130,134	Act. 43,673	Act. 10,031	Act. 10,031	Act. 10,031	Act. 10,031	Act. 10,031	Act. 10,031	Act. 10,031	Act. 10,031	Act. 10,031	Act. 10,031	Act. 10,031		Act. 10,031
		Eastern Main.	1,468	866	645	69,356	40,677	Act. 10,791	Act. 3,008	Act. 3,008	Act. 3,008	Act. 3,008	Act. 3,008	Act. 3,008	Act. 3,008	Act. 3,008	Act. 3,008	Act. 3,008	Act. 3,008		Act. 3,008
		Total.	8,246	2,425	1,616	284,400	268,607	Act. 89,183	Act. 26,006	Act. 26,006	Act. 26,006	Act. 26,006	Act. 26,006	Act. 26,006	Act. 26,006	Act. 26,006	Act. 26,006	Act. 26,006	Act. 26,006		Act. 26,006
SOUTH- WESTERN.	Total of the corresponding period of last year.	Western Main.	4,943	1,432	338	21,074	20,000	Act. 20,000	Act. 437	Act. 437	Act. 437	Act. 437	Act. 437	Act. 437	Act. 437	Act. 437	Act. 437	Act. 437	Act. 437	Whole month discharging. Eight days discharging.	
		Ruar.	1,235	324	229	79,505	82,015	Act. 25,071	Act. 2,241	Act. 2,241	Act. 2,241	Act. 2,241	Act. 2,241	Act. 2,241	Act. 2,241	Act. 2,241	Act. 2,241	Act. 2,241	Act. 2,241		Act. 2,241
		Arrah.	1,000	843	648	128,941	130,134	Act. 43,673	Act. 10,031	Act. 10,031	Act. 10,031	Act. 10,031	Act. 10,031	Act. 10,031	Act. 10,031	Act. 10,031	Act. 10,031	Act. 10,031	Act. 10,031		Act. 10,031
		Eastern Main.	1,468	866	645	69,356	40,677	Act. 10,791	Act. 3,008	Act. 3,008	Act. 3,008	Act. 3,008	Act. 3,008	Act. 3,008	Act. 3,008	Act. 3,008	Act. 3,008	Act. 3,008	Act. 3,008		Act. 3,008
		Total.	8,246	2,425	1,616	284,400	268,607	Act. 89,183	Act. 26,006	Act. 26,006	Act. 26,006	Act. 26,006	Act. 26,006	Act. 26,006	Act. 26,006	Act. 26,006	Act. 26,006	Act. 26,006	Act. 26,006		Act. 26,006
SOUTH- WESTERN.	Grand Total of the corresponding period of last year.	Western Main.	4,943	1,432	338	21,074	20,000	Act. 20,000	Act. 437	Act. 437	Act. 437	Act. 437	Act. 437	Act. 437	Act. 437	Act. 437	Act. 437	Act. 437	Act. 437	Whole month discharging. Eight days discharging.	
		Ruar.	1,235	324	229	79,505	82,015	Act. 25,071	Act. 2,241	Act. 2,241	Act. 2,241	Act. 2,241	Act. 2,241	Act. 2,241	Act. 2,241	Act. 2,241	Act. 2,241	Act. 2,241	Act. 2,241		Act. 2,241
		Arrah.	1,000	843	648	128,941	130,134	Act. 43,673	Act. 10,031	Act. 10,031	Act. 10,031	Act. 10,031	Act. 10,031	Act. 10,031	Act. 10,031	Act. 10,031	Act. 10,031	Act. 10,031	Act. 10,031		Act. 10,031
		Eastern Main.	1,468	866	645	69,356	40,677	Act. 10,791	Act. 3,008	Act. 3,008	Act. 3,008	Act. 3,008	Act. 3,008	Act. 3,008	Act. 3,008	Act. 3,008	Act. 3,008	Act. 3,008	Act. 3,008		Act. 3,008
		Total.	8,246	2,425	1,616	284,400	268,607	Act. 89,183	Act. 26,006	Act. 26,006	Act. 26,006	Act. 26,006	Act. 26,006	Act. 26,006	Act. 26,006	Act. 26,006	Act. 26,006	Act. 26,006	Act. 26,006		Act. 26,006

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.
RAILWAY TRAFFIC.

No. VIII of 1885-86.

APPROXIMATE STATEMENT OF GROSS RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES OF INDIAN RAILWAYS.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES OF INDIAN RAILWAYS.													
Latest Return received.	Railways.	Total length open.	RECEIPTS FOR WEEK ENDING 31st May 1885.		Total length open.	RECEIPTS FOR WEEK ENDING 31st May 1885.		TOTAL RECEIPTS FROM 1st April to 31st May 1885.		TOTAL RECEIPTS FROM 1st April to 30th May 1885.		Total Increase in 1885-86.	Total Decrease in 1885-86.
			Total.	Per mile open.		Total.	Per mile open.	Total.	Per mile open per week.	Total.	Per mile open per week.		
			R	R		R	R	R	R	R	R		
Guaranteed.													
30th May 1885	Ondh and Rohilkhand	547	1,09,506	200	608	1,54,804	225	11,21,267	235	11,90,077	328	68,810	
30th ditto	Sind, Punjab, and Delhi	754	2,21,356	293	706	2,58,413	366	19,04,833	290	27,52,039	455	8,47,205	
30th ditto	Madras	861	1,49,464	173	861	1,44,376	168	12,00,623	160	11,54,034	156		46,530
30th ditto	South Indian	654	91,504	140	654	94,626	145	7,78,554	137	7,72,742	138		5,812
30th June 1885	Great Indian Peninsula	1,458	9,23,653	634	1,504	8,80,139	585	81,95,605	645	88,56,329	648	1,00,724	
30th May 1885	Bombay, Baroda, and Central India	461	8,58,507	777	461	3,73,874	811	29,50,383	784	27,95,406	708		1,54,977
	TOTAL	4,785	18,53,990	392	4,794	19,06,232	398	1,61,51,265	392	1,70,20,626	414	8,69,361	
State.													
30th June 1885	East Indian	1,509	8,43,113	559	1,509	9,85,848	653	62,11,065	624	90,02,630	696	7,91,565	
30th May 1885	Eastern Bengal	233	84,078	361	233	75,160	323	6,99,496	344	7,04,218	253	4,522	
30th ditto	Nalhati	27	1,346	49	27	1,218	45	12,596	53	11,464	49		1,133
30th ditto	Northern Bengal	249	48,718	196	249	42,450	170	3,42,863	161	3,31,515	155		11,358
30th ditto	Kaunia-Dharia	32	2,823	73	37	2,461	67	23,082	83	24,439	77	1,357	
30th ditto	Tirhoot	193	23,405	121	226	27,260	121	2,11,226	125	2,53,650	131	42,424	
30th June 1885	Patna-Gya.	57	6,968	122	57	6,857	155	75,870	158	91,590	187	12,720	
30th May 1885	Cawnpore-Achnera	138	14,903	108	249	16,906	68	1,26,261	105	1,48,983	70	22,723	
30th June 1885	Dildarnagar-Ghazipur	12	1,551	129	12	1,199	100	13,640	130	10,464	102		3,176
30th ditto	Rajputana-Malwa(a)	1,259	2,70,053	214	1,411	3,21,000	228	27,68,518	252	27,26,940	225		41,578
30th May 1885	Wardha Coal	45	16,683	971	45	11,834	263	1,30,681	333	1,17,858	305		12,823
30th ditto	Nagpur and Chhattisgarh	149	40,661	273	149	36,932	241	4,21,120	324	4,14,777	325		6,343
30th ditto	British Burma	207	38,348	155	254	39,135	154	4,23,908	233	3,94,617	181		34,291
30th June 1885	Sindia	75	7,216	96	75	7,527	100	67,632	104	74,898	117	7,256	
30th May 1885	Punjab Northern	447	63,955	143	447	64,093	143	5,40,734	133	7,99,505	209	2,58,771	
30th ditto	Indus Valley	600	1,43,922	226	600	2,52,300	382	12,69,933	221	22,91,793	405	10,21,855	
30th ditto	Amritsar-Pathankot	51	3,334	65	66	4,890	74	28,276	64	50,411	89	22,135	
30th ditto	Bareilly-Pilibhit				38	1,209	34			14,606	48	14,606	
30th ditto	Narainganj - Dacca-Mymensingh				10	1,756	176			15,633	182	15,633	
23rd ditto	Kokilamukh					(b)				(c) 3,342	19	3,342	
	TOTAL	3,834	7,72,464	201	4,243	9,15,167	216	71,64,046	216	84,90,722	232	13,16,676	
GRAND TOTAL (GUARANTEED AND STATE)													
		10,078	34,69,567	344	10,546	38,07,247	361	3,15,26,376	359	3,45,03,978	381	29,77,602	
ESTIMATED EXPENSES													
								1,43,17,397	169	1,65,61,909	183		
NET RECEIPTS													
								1,67,08,979	190	1,79,42,069	198	12,33,090	
Assisted Companies.													
30th May 1885	Bengal Central	126	9,137	73	126	8,361	66	64,013	60	84,960	78	20,947	
30th ditto	Rohilkhand and Kumaon				67	7,401	110			49,173	86	49,173	
30th ditto	Assam	70	4,462	64	78	4,496	61	31,776	67	39,562	60	7,786	
30th ditto	Southern Mahratta	41	1,413	34	216	14,700	69	21,737	61	1,12,364	62	90,827	
30th ditto	Bengal and North-Western	73	2,140	29	393	28,600	94	(d) 17,272	28	2,46,073	95	2,28,801	
30th June 1885	Taraknagar				22	4,368	268			50,247	267	50,247	
	TOTAL	310	17,152	53	810	65,426	84	1,34,798	53	5,82,579	84	4,47,781	
Native States.													
30th May 1885	Bhavnagar-Gondal	193	45,296	234	193	30,028	155	3,80,525	107	2,45,293	143		85,232
30th June 1885	Jodhpur	19	1,402	74	64	2,880	45	9,845	60	29,313	48	16,468	
30th May 1885	Nizam's		(e)			(b)		(e) 1,79,427	193	(e) 1,87,291	204	7,864	
30th ditto	Mysore	87	8,013	92	140	7,352	52	60,625	75	60,726	51	4,101	
30th ditto	Rajpura-Patiala				16	880	50			8,295	60	8,295	
	TOTAL	299	54,711	183	413	41,040	39	5,76,122	158	5,27,918	116		48,504

S.B.—As regards the figures in column "Total receipts from 1st April 1885 to date," audited figures have been available of as far as possible.
(a) Including Newari Perisepore State Railway.
(b) Return not received.

(c) Total receipts from 1st April to 23rd May 1885.
(d) Ditto ditto 2nd April to 31st May 1885.
(e) Ditto ditto 1st April to 24th May 1885.

SIMLA,
The 20th June 1885.

FRED. FIREBRACE, Major, R.E.,
Under-Secretary.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

REVENUE AND AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

REPORTS ON THE STATE OF THE SEASON AND PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS FOR THE WEEK ENDING 24th JUNE 1885.

GENERAL REMARKS.—Good rain is again reported from Madras, where agricultural prospects are generally fair, and have improved in the districts in which they were most unsatisfactory. Harvesting is in progress in a few districts. In Mysore and Coorg rain has been general: the crops are in fair condition in Mysore, and promise well in Coorg.

In some districts of the Bombay Presidency good rain has fallen, but in most places it has been insufficient for sowings. *Kharif* preparations are in progress in twelve districts.

Rain has fallen in the Berars, Hyderabad, and in most parts of the Central India and Rajputana States. Cotton sowing is in progress in the Berars; and *kharif* and *abi* ploughings have commenced in Hyderabad. More rain is required for the crops in parts of Central India and Rajputana. Slight rain is reported from the southern half of the Punjab: *kharif* ploughing and sowing are in active progress. In the North-Western Provinces and Oudh slight rain has fallen in most districts: ploughing operations have commenced. In the Central Provinces there has been good rain in most districts.

More or less rain has fallen throughout Bengal in sufficient quantities for present agricultural needs. More rain is, however, wanted in parts of Behar. Standing crops are growing well, and sowing of *aman* paddy is in full progress. In Tipperah considerable damage is said to have been done to the crops by floods; and in Dacca also some damage is apprehended on lowlands. The continuance of wet weather in Assam has proved injurious to the crops in Kamrup and Sylhet; but more rain is wanted for tea in Dibrugarh. Ploughing and sowing operations continue. In British Burma the weather is seasonable, and ploughing is in progress.

The public health is generally fair in most Provinces.

Prices are still high in Bengal, and are fluctuating in the Punjab; elsewhere they are generally stationary.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Madras—(June 24th)		
Bellary ...	30 (average)	Standing crops dry, good; wet, moderately good; harvest paddy. Fever in one taluk: 12 deaths from cholera.
Kurnool ...	1.85 (")	Early cereals being sown. Small-pox in two taluks; cattle-disease in one; 4 deaths from cholera.
Ganjam ...	1.18 (")	158 deaths from cholera.
Kistna ...	Last week, average 1.81; this week, average 1.95.	River 8 inches over ancient. Fever and small-pox in parts; deaths from cholera—last week 73, this week 14.
Chingleput (Madras) ...	2.24 (average)	Standing crops generally good; harvest paddy in two taluks, outturn below average. Cattle-disease slight in two taluks.
Coimbatore ...	31 (")	Standing crops under wells generally good, but <i>cholum</i> has been damaged by insects in parts of three taluks; harvest <i>cholum</i> and <i>cumboo</i> in two taluks, outturn average. Fever and small-pox in parts; 3 deaths from cholera.
Tanjore ...	58 (")	Standing crops generally good, but not flourishing in parts of one taluk for want of rain; harvest indigo and gingelly, outturn up to average. 53 deaths from cholera.
Madura ...	07 (")	Fever prevalent; 1 death from cholera.
Malabar ...	11.13 (")	Transplanting operations commenced. Small-pox in eight taluks; fever in two, and cattle-disease in one; 29 deaths from cholera.
Travancore ...	7.15	Small-pox and fever in parts.
Bombay—(June 24th)		
Karachi ...	Mirpur Bhatra, 2.22; average of all districts, 2.0.	Poor at Kotri on 22nd, 13 feet 9 inches against 11 feet 2 inches on same date last year. Fever in three and cattle-disease in five taluks. <i>Kharif</i> sowing not yet over. Deficiency of water in some places. Small-pox in eight villages in districts, 9 fresh cases, 1 death, 16 remaining; 35 cases of cholera in Karachi municipal limits, 22 deaths, 11 remaining; in Karachi rural circle 64 cases, 66 deaths, 17 remaining; in Dadu 30 cases, 11 deaths, 13 remaining; in Manjband 1 case, 1 death; in Tatta 83 cases, 50 deaths, 35 remaining; in Sakro 187 cases, 84 deaths, 63 remaining; in Ghorabari 21 cases, 12 deaths, 4 remaining; in Mirpur Bhatra 74 cases, 43 deaths, 30 remaining; in Sujawal 85 cases, 50 deaths, 25 remaining; in Jati 119 cases, 78 deaths, 23 remaining; and in Shahbandar 50 cases, 48 deaths, 77 remaining. Prices—wheat, red rice, and <i>baiji</i> in Karachi 20, 31 and 31; in Dadu 36, 52 and 48; in Sakro 18, 40 and 60, and in Shahbandar 22, 40 and 46 pounds per rupee, respectively.
Hyderabad ...	Nil	<i>Kharif</i> preparations in progress. No water entered certain canals in the Hyderabad and Deccan Mohabat taluks as yet, great want of water felt in that taluk. River at Kotri on 22nd, 13 feet 9 inches against similar height on same date last year. Fever in three, small-pox in four, cattle-disease in four, and cholera in seven taluks; 2 deaths from cholera at Manshabad introduced from Sibi. Wheat 29, <i>juari</i> 42, <i>baiji</i> 40, white rice 20, and red rice 28 pounds per rupee.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Bombay—contd.		
Ahmedabad ...	Some rain in district	Manuring and tilling operations continue. Public health good. Wheat 35 and <i>bajri</i> 34 pounds per rupee.
Baroda ...	<i>Nil</i>	Cholera continues in certain talukas of Baroda division; 4 deaths in Baroda city. Land still under preparation. Prices— <i>bajri</i> 29, wheat 25, and rice 23 pounds per rupee.
Surat ...	17; total, 219; maximum in Maudvi, 227; minimum in Chikhli, 39.	Cholera in Surat, Olphad, and Chorasi; 54 cases, 33 deaths. <i>Juari</i> 38 and <i>nagli</i> 44 pounds per rupee. More rain wanted to commence sowing.
Nasik ...	<i>Nil</i>	Rain still holds off, and is badly wanted. Cholera in Nasik, Sennar, Igatpuri, Niphad, Malgaon, Bagtan, and Kalvan, 375 attacks, 133 deaths. Wheat 34, <i>bajri</i> 34, and rice 24 pounds per rupee.
Colaba (Bombay) ...	Rain every day, except on 17th and 20th; total of week, 164; total to date, 383, being 13.25 below average.	Abnormal temperature 2° warm from 17th to 20th, <i>nil</i> on 21st and 22nd, 1° warm on 23rd; vapour in air normal; wind normal from 17th to 21st; abnormal wind from north-west on 22nd and 23rd.
Poona ...	Rain in Maval and Junnar; light showers in three talukas.	29 cases of cholera in two talukas, 10 deaths. <i>Bajri</i> 32 and <i>juari</i> 39; in Poona <i>bajri</i> 32 and <i>juari</i> 35 pounds per rupee.
Ahmednagar ...	Jamkhed, 112; Newasa, 33; Rahuri, 30; Nagar, 12; Sheogoon, 3; <i>nil</i> in the rest, except Nagh; and variable in a very few places in Akola.	No sowing anywhere for want of rain; want of fodder for cattle is felt in Parner and Sanganner. Cholera—2 attacks, 1 death in Nagar; 23 attacks, 8 deaths in Sheogoon; 32 attacks, 4 deaths in Newasa; and 2 attacks, 2 deaths in Rahuri; cattle-disease to a slight extent in Sanganner and Akola. <i>Bajri</i> from 36 to 51 and <i>juari</i> from 48 to 69 pounds per rupee.
Sholapur ...	Sholapur, 51; Barsi, 160; Madha, 124; Karmala, 65; Pandharpur, 74.	<i>Juari</i> 47 pounds 17 tolas and <i>bajri</i> 37 pounds 17 tolas per rupee.
Dharwar ...	Dharwar, 36; Hangul, 10; Mugul, 25; Hubli, 10; Bankapur, 27; Karajgi, 21; Kalghatgi, 39; Kod, 26.	Sowing of rice generally commenced. Scarcity of drinking-water in one, that of fodder in three talukas still continues. Cholera in Dharwar, Hubli, Navalgund, and Kalghatgi, 50 fatal out of 127 cases; small-pox in two talukas. Rice 22 to 32, and <i>juari</i> 35 to 59 pounds per rupee.
Kanara ...	Karwar, 989; Kumta, 1332; Sirsi, 462; Haliyal, 80.	Sowing operations completed in some parts. Cholera in Haliyal taluka division, 28 cases, 16 deaths; in Mugul, 9 cases, 6 deaths; fever in four and small-pox in two talukas; cattle-disease in Sapa. Common rice in Karwar 13½ seers; district average 14½ seers per rupee.
Rajkot ...	37	Total rainfall 83. General health good. Weather warm and cloudy. <i>Bajri</i> 30 and <i>juari</i> 41 pounds per rupee. <i>General Remarks.</i> —Good rain in some districts, but insufficient for sowing in most places. Deficiency of water in the canals in parts of Sind. Preparations for <i>khari</i> crops continue in parts of twelve districts. Scarcity of drinking-water in one taluka of Dharwar, and of fodder in three talukas of Dharwar and two of Ahmednagar. Cholera in parts of eighteen, small-pox in parts of eleven, and fever and cattle-disease in parts of eight districts.
Bengal—(June 24th)		
Chittagong ...	9.91	Weather seasonable. Cultivation going on vigorously; prospects of crops fair. Prices stationary. Cholera and cattle-disease continue.
Dacca ...	7.32	Damage to paddy crops anticipated, owing to sudden rise of water and continuous rain.
24 Pargunnahs (Calcutta) ...	Not stated	Early rice and jute doing well. Lands being prepared for <i>aman</i> paddy, and seedlings doing well. Price of common rice 13 to 15 seers per rupee. Public health generally good.
Moorsshedabad ...	1.36; occasional showers of rain.	Weather cloudy and much cooler. Sowing of <i>aus</i> crop now going on again under favourable circumstances; <i>amul</i> being prepared for <i>aman</i> crop. Prospects much improved since change in weather. Public health good.
Burdwan ...	1.99; Culna, 3.08; Cutwa, 5.18; Bancegunge, 4.09.	Rain has improved prospects. Agricultural operations progressing. Price of rice 12 to 14 seers per rupee. Some cholera and fever about.
Bangpore ...	5.55	Price of rice stationary. Sporadic cases of cholera reported.
Bangaipur ...	2.69	Rain has done much good. Prospects fair. Price of rice 12 seers 10 chittacks per rupee.
Baranah ...	2.32	Paddy plants thin and backward. Price of common rice 15 seers per rupee. Public health fair.
Patna ...	17	Sowing of <i>bhadai</i> continues. More rain wanted. Harvesting of <i>chenna</i> commenced; sugarcane doing well. A few cases of cholera reported from Barh subdivision, otherwise public health good.
Durbhanga ...	16	Prospects much improved by rain. Agricultural operations progressing favourably. Prices stationary. Cholera still prevalent in town.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Bengal—contd.		
Hazaribagh ...	3.37; occasional showers of rain.	Weather cool and cloudy. Agricultural operations progressing. Cholera still prevalent in some places, otherwise public health good.
Cuttack ...	1.97	Weather cloudy. Late rice plants growing up; early rice and sugarcane doing well. Price of rice unchanged. Public health generally good, except a few cases of cholera in the interior. Prices rising.
Midnapur ...	5.21	Weather seasonable. Cultivation and sowing in progress. Public health generally fair.
Khoolua ...	5.29; rain all the week	Weather cloudy. Cultivation of <i>aus</i> and <i>aman</i> paddy in good progress. Season favourable. Price of rice remains high. Public health good.
Dinapore ...	Rain daily	Crops progressing excellently. Price of rice 13 seers per rupee. A very few cases of cholera reported.
Pubna (Serajganj) ...	3.46	Crops now most promising. Rivers rising. Price of rice stationary. Public health good.
Gya ...	.68; monsoon has broken.	Ploughing for <i>bhadai</i> crops proceeding; <i>murica</i> being sown; sugarcane and <i>cheena</i> doing well. Slight fall in prices. Public health good.
Chumpan ...	2.41	Sowing of <i>bhadai</i> and rice in progress. Prices stationary. Public health fair.
General Remarks. —More or less rain throughout the province during the week; it is generally reported to be sufficient for all present agricultural purposes, except in parts of Behar where the fall has been slight. <i>Aus</i> paddy, jute, sugarcane, and other standing crops are now growing here, and the cultivation and sowing of <i>aman</i> paddy are in full progress. In Behar cultivation of <i>bhadai</i> crops has commenced, but more rain is much needed in some places. In Tipperah considerable damage is said to have been done to the crops by floods, and in Dacca also some damage in lowlands is apprehended owing to sudden rise of water. Cholera is still prevalent in some districts, and fever in Rajshahi and the Chittagong Hill Tracts, otherwise the public health is generally spoken of as pretty fair.		
N. W. Provinces and Oudh—(June 25th)		
Benares (June 23rd)	Average .70	Heat still excessive. Markets well stocked. Prices nearly stationary. Health good, though isolated cases of cholera still reported. No cattle-disease.
Gorakhpur („ 22nd)	Showers varying from .30 to 1.7 in all the tahsils; monsoon set in.	Prices stationary. Public health good.
Fyzabad („ 23rd)	NZ	Weather cloudy. Irrigation of sugarcane going on. Markets well supplied. Fever in two tahsils. Condition of cattle good.
Lucknow („ 22nd)	1.8 of rain at Sadr and .50 at Malahabad.	Excessive heat. Ploughing for <i>kharif</i> commenced. Markets well stocked. Prices slightly rising. Condition both of men and cattle good.
Rae Bareilly („ „)	Rain at Sadr on the 18th, '90; over 1.7 reported from tahsil Digbiparganj.	Weather cloudy and muggy, with east wind. Cholera reported from tahsils Dalman and Salon.
Partabgarh („ 23rd)	.70 of rain in Patti and .40 in Kunda.	Prices nearly stationary. Health good.
Allahabad („ „)	No general rain	Weather cloudy; heat intense. Markets well supplied. Isolated cases of cholera reported here and there. General condition of people good.
Cawnpore („ 22nd)	Showers yesterday at head-quarters and three tahsils; rain to-day at head-quarters; the monsoon appears to be setting in.	Weather cooler. Indigo and cane continue to promise well. Fields being prepared for <i>kharif</i> sowings. Fever in three parganas; cattle-disease in one.
Banda („ 23rd)	1.5	Weather cloudy. General health good; cholera almost disappeared; cattle-disease in one village in Banda.
Ballia („ „)	Monsoon weather; average rainfall during the week, 3.6.	Ploughing commenced. General health good; 54 deaths from cholera.
Fatehgarh („ „)	1.4 of rain in Sadr and Kaimgarh tahsils; .30 in Aligarh.	Prices risen. A few cases of cholera still reported.
Sitapur („ „)	Rain from .80 in tahsil Sidhanti to 2.8 at Sadr has fallen throughout the district.	Ploughing for <i>kharif</i> harvests commenced everywhere.
Bareilly („ „)	Rain in four tahsils; 3 inches at Baheri; none in Sadr.	Prices slightly easier. Public health good. Slight cattle-disease in one tahsil only.
Almora („ „)	Some rain has fallen	More rain required for crops growing up. Prices unchanged. General health good; fever, small-pox, and cattle-disease continue.

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
N. W. Provinces and Oudh—contd.		
Agra (June 22nd)	Rain in two parganas— 20 on 16th; and 10 at Sahr this morning.	<i>Kharif</i> ploughings going on. Prices steady. Very slight cholera and fever continue.
Jhansi (" 23rd)	70	Weather cloudy. Wheat and grain show a rise in price. Condition of men and cattle normal.
Meerut (" ")	Rain in Meerut, Mo- wana, and Sandhana on 20th and 22nd; the rains seemed to have commenced, but only partially so far.	<i>Kharif</i> crops flourishing. Prices steady. Health good.
Punjab—(June 24th)		
Hissar (June 23rd)	20	<i>Kharif</i> sowings commenced. Prices rising.
Delhi (" ")	15	Health fair. Prices slightly falling.
Unbhatta (" ")	60	Health good. Threshing of <i>rabi</i> in progress; preparations for <i>kharif</i> sowings commenced. Prices stationary.
Jullundur (" ")	30	Health good. Prices almost stationary.
Ferozepore (" ")	90 at Sahr	Health good. <i>Kharif</i> ploughings in progress. Prices stationary.
Amritsar (" ")	Slight rain	Health good. <i>Kharif</i> sowings commenced. Prices stationary.
Sidkot (" ")	10	Health good. Ploughing in progress. Prices stationary.
Lahore (" ")	Nil	Health good. <i>Kharif</i> sowings in progress. Prices almost stationary.
Mooltan (" ")	30	Health good. <i>Kharif</i> sowings nearly finished. Prices almost stationary.
Rawalpindi (" ")	Nil	Health good. <i>Kharif</i> sowings in progress. Rain wanted. Prices stationary.
Shahpur (" ")	Nil	Health good. Prices falling.
Dera Ismail Khan (" ")	Nil	Health good. Prices falling.
Peshawar (" ")	Nil	Health good. Prices stationary.
General Remarks. —Light rain, pretty general. Ploughing operations commencing. Weather generally cooler, though still very hot in some places. Markets well stocked. Prices nearly stationary. Slight cholera continues in some districts, and has increased in Bahra. General health and condition of cattle good.		
Central Provinces— (June 24th)		
Nagpur ...	6.14	Weather cloudy and wet. Continuous rain retards <i>kharif</i> preparation. Slight cholera and small-pox in places. Prices steady.
Jubbulpore ...	6.45; weather showery	<i>Kharif</i> ploughings in progress. Cholera in interior. Prices stationary.
Saugor (June 23rd) ...	4.42	Weather reasonable. <i>Kharif</i> ploughings and sowings in hand. Health fair. Prices steady.
Seoni ...	4.4; daily rain	<i>Kharif</i> sowings commenced. Small-pox and cattle-disease declining. Prices stationary.
Hoshangabad ...	8.1	Weather reasonable. <i>Kharif</i> sowings commenced. 27 cases of cholera, 10 deaths. Prices stationary.
Kanpur ...	1.6	Weather cloudy. <i>Kharif</i> sowings commenced. Rain much wanted. 14 cases of cholera, 7 deaths. Prices rising.
Kanpur ...	18.11; continuous rain.	Ploughing going on. 144 cases of cholera, 271 deaths. Wheat 30 and rice 24 cents per mow.
General Remarks. —Rain plentiful except in Nirmar; and sowings commencing. Cholera severe in Raipur and Bilaspur. Prices rising in Nirmar, elsewhere steady.		
Burmah— (June 24th)		
Ayeyar (June 20th)	18.44	Total rainfall 30.98. Slight cholera in one and cattle-disease in two districts.
Bassah (" ")	6.60	Total rainfall 10.27. Cholera in July 21 deaths, cattle-disease prevalent in some localities.
Bhamo (" ")	3.31	Total rainfall 14.26. Public health good.
Chindwin (" ")	10.57	Total rainfall 31.27. Public health good. Ploughing progressing. Cattle healthy.
Toung (" ")	23.77	Total rainfall 30.27. Public health and health of cattle good.
Legu (" ")	6.64	Total rainfall 24.36. Slight cholera in town, a few deaths from it noticed. Ploughing progressing.
Henzada (" ")	4.84	Total rainfall 13.25. A few cases of small-pox in town; cattle healthy.
Preng (" ")	5.57	Total rainfall 11.23. Public health and health of cattle good.
Thayetungo (" ")	1.11	Total rainfall 4.63. Public health and health of cattle good.
General Remarks. —Cholera and small-pox in several districts, but not serious, cattle-disease in some districts, severe in Ankerst and Bassah, but slight elsewhere. Ploughing progressing. Rain-fall reasonable.		

Presidency or Province and District.	Rainfall for week under report.	State of agricultural prospects.
Assam—(June 24th)		
Gauhati ...	79 of rain during the week ending 23rd instant.	Weather getting warm. Injury to <i>aus</i> crops from inundation reported from some lowlying parts of Barpeta; ploughing operations for <i>sali</i> crop in progress. Cattle-disease reported from Patidurang taluk; cholera prevails in neighbourhood of Nalbari, Palasbari, Rani Chandrapur and Sadr station.
Sylhet ...	5.34	Incessant rain has done some injury to some standing crops in parts of the district. Rivers falling. Cattle-disease not yet disappeared; public health good.
Cachar ...	3.88; weather wet for first five days.	Ploughing and sowing of <i>dumahi</i> and <i>murali</i> crops nearly finished. Common rice 14½ seers per rupee. 8 deaths from cholera from Hailakandi, 1 from Silchar, and 1 from Katigora reported.
Dibrugarh ...	1.05	Weather hot. <i>Ahu dhan</i> being cut; <i>sali dhan</i> seedling backward; rain wanted for tea and all crops. Cattle-disease continues.
Mysore and Coorg— (June 24th)		
Bangalore ...	General rain through- out the State.	Crops in fair condition, and prospects encouraging. Cholera prevalent to some extent throughout the State, including Bangalore. Prices generally stationary, with downward tendency.
Mercara ...	7.90	Season favourable for preparing the land for transplanting paddy; good rain having fallen. Slight fall in prices of foodgrains. Prospects of season and public health good.
Deccan and Hyderabad (June 24th)		
Amraoti ...	1.58; weather rainy	Cotton sowings almost completed. Wheat 22 and <i>juari</i> 26 seers per rupee.
Akola ...	0.13	Weather warm and sultry. Cotton sowings progressing.
Hyderabad ...	1.41 of rain during the week.	<i>Khari</i> and <i>abi</i> ploughings commenced. Health good in all talukas, except Patli and Amberpet. Prices—wheat 15, coarse rice 14, white <i>juari</i> 17½, yellow <i>juari</i> 23½, and <i>tur</i> 17½ seers per current sicca rupee.
Central India States— (June 24th)		
Indore ...	0.6	High winds and cool cloudy weather.
Morar (Gwalior) ...	0.5	Health good; cholera in Lushkar. Heat intense.
Neemuch ...	Nil	High winds. Prices slightly rising. Scarcity of drinking-water continues. Health good.
Guna ...	1.19	Health and prospects good.
Sitna ...	1.40	Slight cholera in Rewah.
Agar ...	1.10	More rain urgently required. Health good.
Schore ...	1.60	Monsoons appear to have commenced.
Nuwangong ...	1.35	Weather reasonable. Health good. Prices steady.
Mauipur (Bhopawar) ...	Nil	Weather cloudy.
Rajputana— (June 24th)		
Alm (June 24th)	0.3	Weather cloudy and windy.
Marwar (" 19th)	Nil	Very little water now in Jodhpore city tanks. Health not good, and small-pox prevails. Weather still cloudy and windy; hot winds almost ceased; rain much wanted. Prices stationary.
Meywar (" 20th)	Nil	Tanks and wells low. Crops not yet sown, except Indian-corn near wells. Health good; a few cases of cholera in district. Prices stationary. Cool breeze and light clouds; rain wanted.
Kherwara (" 22nd)	Nil	Tanks and wells not low. Health good. Prices low. Weather cool; light clouds; high winds.
Haroti (" 20th)	Doali, 13; Tonk, 13; Kota, 30.	Cholera severe, 232 deaths. Great heat in city. Cholera in Tonk city and district, also in Bundi.
Jhalawar (" 19th)	79	Slight cholera. Ploughing operations commenced.
Ajmer (" 23rd)	Nil	Small-pox in district.
Jodhpore (" ")	18; more rain expected	Prices stationary. Health good.
Uwar (" ")	51 (average)	Prices steady. 2 deaths from cholera in district, otherwise health good.
Bikaner (For the week ending 13th June.)	Nil	State of wells fair. General health good. Weather partially cloudy.
Nepal—(June 18th)		
Katmandu (June 19th)	4.49	Weather still hot. Cholera increasing in the town. More rain wanted for the recently sown rice.

No. 76 Met.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Government of India, in the Revenue and Agricultural Department (Meteorology),—dated Simla, the 26th June, 1885.

Read the following :—

Summary of the Weather Reports for May 1885.

The abnormally high atmospheric pressure and low temperature, which characterised the weather of April, continued in a somewhat modified degree during May. The pressure was much above the normal average throughout the country, the excess being greatest in North-Western India. The seat of lowest pressure, instead of being, as is usual, in Rajputana, lay generally in Northern Bengal and Behar, along the foot of the Himalaya. In the Western Punjab the pressure was much higher, and it was highest in the peninsula; most frequently in the south and the west.

At the beginning of the month a dry westerly current prevailed in the Punjab, down the Gangetic plain and across the northern districts of the Central Indian plateau to Behar and Chutia Nagpur, but was replaced, about the 3rd, by easterly winds which brought up much vapour; and this was discharged in local showers over Bengal and Assam. About the 8th of May these local storms extended to the Upper Provinces, where the temperature was lowered by the rain.

This cloudy and disturbed weather lasted more or less up to the 16th, when it cleared, except in the Northern Punjab and on the North-West Himalaya, and dry westerly winds set in on the plains of North-Western and Central India. In the western half of the peninsula and in Guzerat the winds were chiefly from west or north-west, occasionally changing to south-west. In Travancore and in the south of the peninsula, south and south-east winds set in about the 24th, and were accompanied with more or less rain, which lasted to the end of the month.

The mean temperature of the month was greatly below the normal average over the whole of North-Western India, especially in the Punjab, where the deficiency was between 7° and 14° . In Bombay also it was below the average, but the difference was small. The humidity of the air was much in excess of the average in the Punjab; but elsewhere, on the whole, the atmosphere was somewhat drier than usual.

More or less rain fell in almost all parts of the country. In Northern India the fall was above the average, except in Behar, Chutia Nagpur, Lower Bengal, and Assam; where it was below it. The excess was the greatest in the Punjab, especially in the northern districts. At Rawalpindi and Murree the rainfall during the month was above 11 and 9 inches, respectively, the average of the month of May being 3 inches at the former and $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches at the latter station. In Burma also the excess was very great, being more than double the average fall.

On the west coast and in the Deccan and Mysore, on the other hand, the rainfall was deficient; at Cochin the fall was less than half the normal amount; and at Mangalore there was a total of $\frac{1}{2}$ inch only, the average being 8 inches.

The following table shows the amount of rainfall and the difference from the averages during the month, according to classification adopted in previous reports :—

Districts.	Average rainfall in May.	Difference from the average in May 1885.
Punjab, west	1.10	+3.87
Punjab, east	1.75	+1.47
North-Western Provinces, trans-Gangetic	1.55	+0.53
North-Western Provinces, Cis-Gangetic	0.42	+0.69
Behar	1.39	—0.89
Northern Bengal	5.19	+1.70
Assam, Cachar	14.44	—2.08
Lower Bengal, Chutia Nagpur	5.86	—1.30
Orissa, Northern Circars	2.74	+0.37
Central Provinces, south	0.61	+1.44
Berar, Khandesh	0.42	+0.06
Rajputana, Central India, Saugor, and Nerbudda	0.54	+0.24
Sind, Cutch	0.11	+0.17
Guzerat	0.21	+0.44
Konkan	1.33	—0.91
Deccan, Hyderabad	2.78	—1.42
Malabar	7.49	—1.47
Mysore, Bellary	3.80	—0.24
Karnatic	1.35	+1.05
British Burma	4.38	+6.67
Ceylon	12.91	—3.07

H. F. BLANFORD,

Meteorological Reporter to the Government of India.

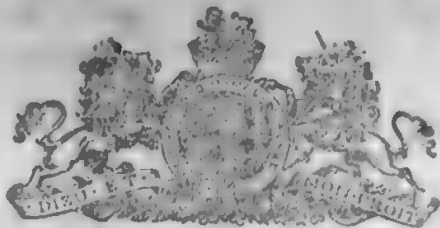
ORDER.—Ordered, that the papers be printed in the Supplement to the *Gazette of India*.

E. C. BUCK,

Secretary to the Government of India.

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EXTRA SUPPLEMENT TO The Gazette of India.

CALCUTTA, SATURDAY, JANUARY 24, 1885.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

PAPERS RELATIVE TO THE BENGAL TENANCY BILL, No. II.

Note by BABU KISHORI LAL SIKKAR.

1. Clause (5) of section 5 is likely to operate to hardship on occupancy-raiyats who are fortunate to have large holdings. With the imperfect provisions on restriction of enhancement and on restriction of the right of ejectment in sections 7 and 12, respectively, it is hard to say that the position of a tenure-holder is better than that of an occupancy-raiyat. This being so, it would be probably lowering the position of an occupancy-raiyat; it converts him into a tenure-holder, and such a conversion clause (4) of section 5 will facilitate. Besides, the line of demarcation is too arbitrary and will be a source of increased litigation.

2. The object of the clause, as I apprehend it, is that in the case of such big holdings as exceed 100 bighas in area, the law should not prevent the accrual of occupancy-rights under such big holdings. This object is good and fairly represents the existing custom. I would maintain this object by altering the clause in the following manner:—

“Where in a holding there are three or more raiyats domiciled on parts of the holding, who hold lands belonging to the holding as khudkhasht raiyats, the person to whom the holding belongs shall be presumed to be a tenure-holder unless the contrary be shown.”

3. This would get rid of the arbitrary limit of 100 bighas and at the same time would make the presumption inapplicable to cases where there are no khudkhasht sub-tenants, or where there are only one or two such tenants. No doubt the line of demarcation I propose is also arbitrary, but I believe it is less so, and will at all events be susceptible of easy proof.

4. But the above change is one that I propose in connection with another that I would suggest. I would have section 37 modified as follows:—

“Where under an occupancy-raiyat there are two or one raiyat domiciled on parts of the occupancy-holding and hold portions of the occupancy-holding as a khudkhasht raiyat under the occupancy-raiyat, such occupancy-raiyat shall be deemed to be a tenure-holder in relation to such khudkhasht holders under him, but in all other respects he shall be an occupancy-raiyat.”

5. The above change also will get rid of a very arbitrary provision, while it will maintain the good object with which that arbitrary provision was made.

6. I have suggested the above changes in view of what I know and believe to be the prevailing customs, such customs being that domiciled sub-raiyats are allowed practically almost the same rights *quoad* the lands they hold as the raiyats under whom they hold, while sub-raiyats who, not being domiciled on any portion of the tenure, hold portions of the tenure as outsiders or *paikust* raiyats are seldom deemed to possess any permanent or secure rights, except when there has been an express written contract creating such rights.

7. As a sequence of what I have said I would propose the removal of section 38, for the rights of khudkhasht sub-raiyats being secured as above (they being in effect declared to be occupancy-raiyats), the rights of non-khudkhasht sub-raiyats may well be left alone; only it may be provided in the case of non-khudkhasht sub-raiyats they shall be presumed to be tenants from year to year unless the contrary were shown.

8. The above suggestions I make with great diffidence, and I am not prepared to press for their adoption without thorough discussion and consideration.

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9. I would next say a word about section 41. The clause providing for the term of the contract being at least seven years in certain cases is, I think, one of which zemindars may take an undue advantage by misinterpreting it to ignorant raiyats, and by inducing them to believe that they are bound to give some increase of rent every seven years. I wish the mention of the period of seven years might be omitted, and at the same time some expression might be used to show that an increase of two annas per rupee would be more encouraged than an increase of four annas in the rupee.

10. I should also wish that the powers given to the collectors in the chapters of "Record of-rights," "Settlement of Rent" and "Table of Rates" might be limited to recording existing rights, settling existing rents and recording existing rates without the power of making enhancement in any of these cases. My reasons are, first, that it is not safe to leave the power of enhancement to the discretion of individual executive officers, whose inclinations, which vary very greatly, generally influence their decisions; second, that to impose on them the duty of enhancing rates would be imposing on them a task too heavy, if not altogether impossible, for them to discharge.

11. To clause (1), section 231, an exception should be made to the effect that when any char land is the re-formation of, or accretion to, any holding, the right to such land shall be according to the law of accretion and re-formation.

12. If the Bill be so changed as to leave any occupancy-tenure as a non-transferable holding, an exception shall have to be made to section 78 for such occupancy-tenures.

13. On the question of enhancement for increase of price, I should have pointed out in my last letter that the ground as it is now put is so far unfavourable to the raiyat, compared with the ground in the present law, as it is made independent of the actual produce, which may have diminished in quantity. Hence the necessity of the safeguards.

P. S.—I should have added in my last note that the definition of "settled raiyat" as in the Bill would injuriously affect raiyats of villages which happen to be washed away by the river.

No. 2071T.R., dated 29th September 1884.

From—Officiating Under-Secretary to Government of Bengal.

To—The Secretary to Government of India, Legislative Department.

In continuation of Mr. MacDonnell's letter No. 1993T.R., dated 23rd September, 1884, I am directed to submit, for the information of the Government of India, a copy of a letter dated 16th idem, from the General Secretary to the Behar Indigo-planters' Association, with its enclosures, containing the Association's views on the provisions of the Bengal Tenancy Bill regarding the transferability of occupancy-right and the raiyat's right to sublet his holding.

Dated 16th September 1884.

From—W. B. HUDSON, Esq., General Secretary to the Behar Indigo-planters' Association.

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Revenue Department.

I have the honour to forward herewith, for submission to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, copies of proceedings of our Association at two meetings held at Mozufferpore on the 26th of July and 16th of August respectively, the one called to discuss the transferability of occupancy-rights, the other the raiyat's rights to sublet his holding and the restriction placed on such right in the Bill.

2. I have no doubt His Honor is already aware of the great importance the members of the Association attach to those portions of the Bill which treat of these two subjects, and also of the opinion we hold that it is only by a just and fair treatment of the portions of the Bill referring to transfer and subletting that we, in common with all traders, can ever hope to be in a position to treat with the cultivators of the soil on fair and equal terms. To us as a class they are of paramount importance. The foundations of all trade are security and credit—the one dependent on the other. Any attempt to lower the raiyat's credit by depreciating the value of the security he should be in a position to offer, any attempt to make the security he could otherwise offer dependent on the good-will of others, must, from the very nature of any business, make it impossible for the raiyat to meet us on advantageous terms and compel us to propitiate the landlord before entering into any arrangement with the tenants.

3. Relying on the views repeatedly expressed by the members of the Government on the subject, we have presumed that the principle of embodying transferability and the right to sublet amongst the incidents attached to an occupancy-holding has been definitely decided upon, and that it was no longer open to discussion. We have to a certain extent

followed the suggestions made to Commissioners of Divisions in your letter of the 24th of May last, and confined our discussion mainly to the restrictions placed on them in the Bill, and such other restrictions as we thought might be submitted with a view to attain the object we understand His Honor desires, that is, to prevent the land falling into the hands of persons who would purchase it with the sole object of making a profit by rack-renting.

4. We deem it, therefore, unnecessary to defend, by any elaborate arguments, the general principle of transferability of occupancy holdings, or the necessity for making provision for such in the Bill; but should His Honor, after receiving the additional information called for in your letter of the 24th of May, or when, as indicated in your letter, the provisions of the Bill "have been tested in the light of local experience and existing facts," deem it necessary to recommend a modification of the "principles" of the Bill, we trust His Honor will allow us, who are more interested in this subject than the landlords, and equally as much as the raiyats, an opportunity of again submitting our views on it.

BEHAR INDIGO PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

Proceedings at a General Committee Meeting held at the Planters' Club, Mozufferpore, on Saturday, the 26th of July 1884.

PRESENT:

The Hon'ble T. M. Gibbon, C. I. E.
Dr. J. H. G. Hill, of Turkaulia Concern.
Mr. E. Macnaghten, of Begumaerai Concern.
" W. O. MacGregor, of Aron Concern.
" W. B. Hudson, General Secretary.

The above members met at the appointed hour, 8 A.M. After having waited till 9 o'clock, and a quorum of General Committee members not having been formed, it was proposed—
That the meeting be made a general one for discussion of the notified points of the Tenancy Bill (carried).

The following then formed the meeting:—

The Hon'ble T. M. Gibbon, C. I. E.

Dr. J. H. G. Hill.	Mr. A. MacRae.
Mr. E. Macnaghten.	" M. Mackenzie.
" T. J. Fraser.	" A. H. Reunnie.
" W. O. MacGregor.	" R. Hudson.
" H. Collingridge.	" W. B. Hudson.

Read—Letters from General Committee members apologizing for non-attendance.

- BUSINESS.**—1. Transfer. Sections 3, 10, 11, 23, 28, 31F, 31H, 77, 97.
2. Registration. Sections 15 to 22 inclusive.
3. Pre-emption. Sections 32 to 36 inclusive.
4. Incumbrances. Sections 175 to 192.
5. Contract. Section 210.

MR. GIBBON'S NOTE.

Section 3 (10).—Transfer covers mortgage.

Not only usufructuary mortgage—mortgage with possession, foreclosure on mortgage, but also a "lien."

It is difficult to draw the line between an usufructuary mortgage, a zarpushgi mortgage, and a transfer in the wide sense of the word.

If transfer did not cover mortgage, the effect *might* be to prevent the raiyat raising money on a mortgage or simple lien. The fear is that the landlord may, by exercising the right to pre-empt given him under the Bill, interfere with legitimate trade.

I myself think the pre-emption clauses have been so framed that the landlord can only pre-empt on a foreclosure and on voluntary transfer.

It should be remembered that the Calcutta Rent Law Commission wished to allow transferability, but to prohibit mortgage; also sale by a decree of court other than a sale under a decree for arrears of rent.

P. 17, para. 92, and also their Bill.

Transfer of permanent tenures, such as (istamrari mokarrari tenures, &c.) occupancy holdings at fixed rates of rent, and tenures by reason of the raiyat having sublet more than half his holding under section 37, are subject to one law: the transfer of ordinary occupancy holdings are made subject to another. The first are made subject to the provisions of the Chapter on Registration: the second to pre-emption on the part of the landlord.

Section 16.—When a permanent tenure or a holding at fixed rates is to be sold up under a decree of court for a debt other than a decree for an arrear of rent, the court will serve notice of transfer on the landlord.

Section 33.—A landlord cannot pre-empt after sale under a decree of a competent court, but the bid of a landlord and a bid of a third party being the same, the landlord's bid will receive the preference.

Section 18.—Until a transfer is registered by the landlord, the transferer and transferee are jointly liable to the landlord for the rents of the tenure.

Section 19.—When the tenure is sold up at the instance of the landlord, the landlord is bound to register without any fee.

Section 19 (1).—Landlords refusing to register can be compelled to register under an order of court [section 22 (2)], and may be fined for refusing, unless [section 19 (2)] they can show sufficient cause for doing so.

My objection to the above is that section 23 should be confined to actual mokarrari tenures or holdings that have been declared by a competent court to be held at fixed rates; if this is not done, every person who wishes to evade the provisions of the pre-emption clauses will plead protection under section 23.

Every landlord who would not otherwise wish to pre-empt may be obliged to exercise his right in order to set aside a claim to hold at fixed rates for ever after.

The landlord will be obliged to contest the claim for fear any "laches" on his part may enable the transferee to acquire rights he otherwise would not possess.

Every raiyat who is sold up under decree of court for arrears of rent may contest the legality of the sale by declaring it incorrectly described under 178 and 179 (the sale sections having also been made applicable to holdings at fixed rates under section 182). It is to our interest to lessen litigation, not to encourage it.

Section 32.—The transfer of an ordinary occupancy holding is placed under restriction, it is made subject to pre-emption on the part of the landlord.

Section 32 (2).—To enable the landlord to come to a decision as to whether he will exercise his right or not, the would-be transferer must give the landlord intimation six weeks in advance of his intention to sell with all particulars of sale in order to permit of his valuing the holding, &c.

I presume that the landlord would, if he pre-empted without the assistance of the court

Section 32 (4). under section 32 (4), have of take his chance of any claims on the property being made after transfer, and of which the raiyat had failed to inform him previous to sale. If the landlord claims the land at a valuation placed upon it by the court, the raiyat may elect to retain the land and not sell.

If the raiyat does conform to the law and sells without allowing the landlord the option of taking, the sale is void as against the landlord.

What the effect of this would be I do not quite realize; a lawyer must decide. I believe it would allow him to pre-empt at his convenience, or he might, after a certain time, more particularly if the transferer left the estate or ceased to reside on it, treat the holding as abandoned. Although the Bill does not and cannot provide for the would-be purchaser, seeing that the intention to transfer is properly notified to the landlord, intending purchasers would act wisely in seeing such notices served, or they may find the land in possession of others and themselves minus their money.

Section 56.—Allows a proprietor who collects his rents direct from his raiyats without the aid of middlemen to pre-empt. It allows permanent tenure-holders who collect from their raiyats to pre-empt. It allows middlemen who hold the written sanction of their proprietors to pre-empt.

But it does not allow thikadars or ijaradars to pre-empt without the written consent of the proprietor, and it does not allow the proprietor to pre-empt where his ijaradar refuses to act for him.

Sections 11-23-31P.—All holdings, whether permanent tenures, holdings at fixed rates, or ordinary occupancy holdings, may be transferred in the

Section 97. same manner, and to the same extent, as other immoveable property, but nothing in the Act will entitle a tenant, whose holding is transferable, to transfer or bequeath, without the consent of his landlord, a portion only of the holding, so that it may be held by the transferee as a separate holding.

The landlord's interests are in so much protected that he may, if his rents fall into arrears, sell up the whole holding and decline to divide it. He may also, if he likes, take a *muti* and allow the portion sold to be held as a separate holding, but there is nothing to prevent a raiyat mortgaging first one field and then another, and registering each such mortgage as an incumbrance under 177 and following sections, or selling his land piecemeal. Each such act would be legal as against the transferer, and against any third party wishing to purchase or lend money on the whole holding, and such would to a certain extent in some instances hold good as against the landlord in his capacity of transferee.

Section 31 (h).—In case the tenant dies intestate, the property would descend to his heir in the same way as other immoveable property. Although the Bill does not make direct mention of it, I presume the land might be divided among the heirs.

INCUMBRANCES.

Sections 175 to 192.—When discussing transferability, we must not lose sight of the very important chapter on sale for arrears under decree, and the extent to which our interests will be affected by its provisions. All interest in land is in this chapter (section 75) divided into

three classes, viz.—“Protected interests,” “Registered and notified incumbrances,” and “Voidable incumbrances.” *Section 176.* “Protected interests” go with the land, whoever the purchaser may be. It means shortly that be the title what it may on which the defaulter holds his land from his landlord, the fact of the holding being sold for arrears of rent shall not set aside the title: the purchaser shall hold the land under the same title and with the same rights the defaulter held it on.

Section 177 (a).—Incumbrance means any lien, sub-tenancy, easement, or any other right or interest created by the tenant on his holding, or in limitation of his own interest therein, and not being a protected interest as defined in section 176.

A registered and notified incumbrance means an incumbrance created by an instrument registered under the Indian Registration Act of 1877, and of which a copy has not less than 3 months before the accrual of the arrear been served on the landlord in the manner provided.

Sections 177 (b), 192, and 193. *Sections 179 (a) and 180.*—All permanent tenures, all holdings at fixed rates of rent (section 182), must first be sold for arrears of rent subject to their registered and notified incumbrances.

Section 181.—If the price offered is not sufficient to cover the arrears, the landlord may elect to hold a re-sale of the tenure with power to void all incumbrances.

An incumbrance not registered and notified is voidable. All transfers of tenures after the passing of the Act must be registered under Chapter III of the Bill.

Section 177 (b).—All incumbrances already registered before passing of the Act may be notified 3 months before arrear becomes due.

Sections 192 and 193.—All incumbrances created, but not registered, may, provided their registration is not compulsory under section 17 of the Registration Act, be registered and notified within one year from the passing of the Act.

Section 183.—An ordinary occupancy holding may be sold free of incumbrances for arrears of rent.

The only protection given to an incumbrance in a sale of an ordinary occupancy holding for arrears of rent is—

Section 186d. 1st.—If there is any surplus after satisfying decree, the surplus shall remain 2 months in court to allow creditors to bring forward their claims.

Sections 198 and 1-9. 2ndly.—A person having a voidable interest in the land may pay the amount of the decree into court, and such payment shall entitle him to possession of the holding until the debt is discharged.

Section 185.—The Local Government may, by notification in the Gazette, apply the same rule to occupancy holdings as apply to permanent tenures.

Sections 190 and 191.—A decree-holder may bid at a sale for arrears of rents, the judgment-debtor may not.

Sections 313 to 326.—Of C. P. C., providing for the setting aside of the sale on the application of the purchaser, is excluded from the operation of this chapter.

Sections 313 to 326 of C. P. C.

Under Chapter XVII, section 210—

A raiyat with transferable occupancy rights cannot contract himself out of the right to transfer. Tenure-holders “may” do so if they wish. Query, may raiyats holding at fixed rates? In reference to the provisions regarding incumbrances, I would only say that I would like to see no distinction made between permanent tenure-holders and occupancy raiyats: all should have their holdings sold up subject to notified incumbrances. If there is to be a distinction, a raiyat whose right to hold at a fixed rate has not been decided by a competent court, should be subject to the same law in this respect as the ordinary occupancy raiyat. It must be remembered that raiyats who sublet more than half their holdings will only receive the benefit of the notified incumbrance clauses after the passing of the proposed new registration law.

I need not say that I strongly approve of the power to contract themselves out of their right to transfer being withheld from raiyats with occupancy rights.

T. M. GIBBON.

Much discussion ensued, more especially on the point of zarpaishgi mortgages being deemed by law Deeds of Transfer. By far the largest "dealings with raiyats" for land are now conducted on this basis, and any interference with transfer, or any restrictions on it as they now stand in the Bill, would have a most injurious effect on our business, and make the reiterate advice of officials, and even of the Bengal Government itself, that we should deal only with the raiyat for land for indigo cultivation, a mockery.

On the other hand, it would be most injurious to the raiyat. His only way of getting money at fair interest will be closed, and the present universal custom of raising money to pay off arrears of rent or other debts by giving over a small portion of his holding on zarpaishgi mortgage will be subverted, and the consequences be that he will fall entirely into the hands of the mahajana.

We have never looked on a zarpaishgi mortgage as a regular transfer. For instance, a raiyat owes Rs. 40 to his mahajan, or for arrear of rent. He comes to us, complains that he is paying 36 per cent. interest and offers one bigha of his land for 8 years at an annual rent of Rs. 5, the rent to go as a set-off against the loan. At the end of the period the land reverts to the raiyat. This is the cheapest way any raiyat can get out of a difficulty. It is fast becoming the universal custom of North Behar, and by fostering it it will do more for the raiyat and less harm to the zemindar than any system of takavi advances that Government can organize.

The following points were noted by the General Secretary for reference to counsel for opinion, *vis.* :—

- (a) What effect has the word "void" in section 32 (5) as against a transferee?
- (b) What would the landlord's remedy be?

On section 23.—The meeting was of opinion that the permission to raiyats holding at fixed rates to use their holding in such way as to render it unfit for agricultural purposes should be limited to raiyats whose right to hold at fixed rates has been decided by court.

Sections 175 to 192.—In reference to the above, the meeting considered it advisable that occupancy holdings should be placed on the same footing as tenures, *vis.*, they should be first sold subject to incumbrances.

(a) If it be necessary to give the landlord any consideration to induce him to sanction transfer, his power of veto or pre-emption should be taken from him, and a registration fee on all transfers allowed him in place of it.

(b) If the landlord's right of pre-emption is to be retained in the Bill, all occupancy holdings other than those at fixed rates by virtue of a decree of court should be subject to pre-emption the same as ordinary holdings.

(c) If it be necessary to place any restriction on transfer with a view to prevent land jobbery and rack-renting, it would be better to forbid the transferee sub-letting or re-transferring within a given time, say three years, than to provide restrictions that will affect others than transferees.

After discussion Mr. Gibbon proposed as above (c).

Mr. MacGregor proposed as an amendment—

That if the entire holding only is to be transferable, the transferee should be allowed to sublet, but not to enhance, *i.e.*, demand more rent than he pays himself to his landlord.

On these being put to the meeting, the votes for each were found to be equal.

On the Secretary asking the opinion of the meeting as to whether the transfer of a portion of a holding should be allowed, or only the whole as it stands on the rent-roll, the question was discussed freely. Mr. MacGregor urged strongly that as planters we did not want to purchase raiyats' jotes, but only a few kottas probably of each when the land was high and fit for indigo; consequently that, unless a portion of a holding were transferable, planters would not avail themselves of transfer to any large extent. Most of those present disagreed with him as to the advisability of permitting transfer of a portion of a holding as being unfair to landlords.

On the question of what our general proposition should be as to transfer—

Twelve different modes of treating transferability were cited by Mr. Gibbon, *vis.* :—

1. As it stands in the Bill.
2. Transferability with right reserved to landlord to pre-empt on all transfer—transfers of tenures as well as on transfer of occupancy holdings.
3. Transfer with right reserved to landlord to pre-empt on transfer of all occupancy holdings other than occupancy holdings at fixed rates decreed by a court of law.
4. Any of the above with power reserved to the raiyats to contract themselves out of their rights.
5. Any of the above with additional restrictions on sub-letting or other restrictions to prevent land jobbing.
6. Transfer of the "whole" of the holding without restriction, but with prohibition of a transfer of a portion, giving the landlord a remedy in case of transfer of a portion without his consent.

7. Free transfer.
8. Transfer to resident cultivators to be alone permitted.
9. Transfer with restriction by landlord on receipt of fee.
10. Absolute prohibition of transfer.
11. Make no mention of transfer.
12. Transfer permitted by voluntary sale or by decree of court for arrears of rent; in no other case mortgage prohibited.

Of these No. 7, free transfer of the whole holding was decided by the meeting to be most desirable.

Mr. Gibbon said he would propose that transfer of the whole holding be unrestricted, but subject to a registration fee to the landlord as above, and that transfer of a portion be prohibited, giving the landlord a remedy.

The meeting adopted his view.

Section 210. Contract.—Power of raiyat to contract himself out of his rights objected to by zemindar.

Read letter from Supreme Government of Bengal, dated 5th of April 1884 (paragraph 28), referring to a suggestion on the part of the zemindar, that raiyats should be allowed to contract themselves out of their rights to transfer and sublet.

The meeting was of opinion that the raiyat should not be allowed to contract himself out of his right, as his ignorance and apathy would most certainly be traded on as Mr. Gibbon remarks.

But if Government are prepared to make provision in the Bill to see that the raiyat acts, or has acted, as a free agent, receiving a fair equivalent in surrendering his undoubted right, the meeting would be prepared to support the zemindars' proposal.

W. B. HUDSON,

General Secretary, B. I. P. Association.

N. B.—The date of the next meeting was fixed on the third Saturday in August, i. e., 16th of August 1884.

BEHAR INDIGO-PLANTERS' ASSOCIATION.

Proceedings at a General Committee Meeting held at the Planters' Club, Mozufferpore, on Saturday, the 16th August 1884.

PRESENT:

The Honorable T. M. Gibbon, C.I.E.,
Dr. J. H. G. Hill,
Messrs. M. Gale,
M. Macleod,
T. J. Fraser,
Robt. Wilson,
H. C. Spry,
W. B. Hudson,

Members of the General Committee.

Many other planters were also present watching the proceedings.

Dr. Hill was requested to take the chair.

Business.—The proceedings of last meeting confirmed.

II.—The General Secretary requested the Chairman to put the question to the Meeting whether the proceedings of this day should conclude the discussion of the Tenancy Bill for the present, until the proceedings of the official conferences have been published.

The Meeting decided that another meeting should be held next month, on the 15th of September or other date to be notified by the Secretary, when he had applied to Government for a copy of the proceedings of the Bankipore Official Conference.

In accordance with the notice of the *Subjects for discussion* at the present meeting Mr. Gibbon was requested by the Chairman to commence with—

- (A)—*Subletting* and its incidences in the Bill.
- (B)—*Restrictions*, sections 31(G), 37, 38.
- (C)—*Protection* to under-raiyats, sections 62 and 63.
- (D)—*Surrender and abandonment*, Chapter XIII, Distraint, more especially sections 139c 2 & 3, 154, 155, 156.
- (E)—*Incumbrances*, Chapter XV, particularly sections 177, 178(6), 183, 188(1), 189.
- (F)—*Contract*, section 210.

Sections 37 and 38 containing restrictions on sub-letting were first discussed by several members who had not been present at the last meeting. The several discussions on this point at former meetings were gone through.

It was strongly urged by several members that the period allowed by the Bill was insufficient and contrary to the present custom of these districts of Behar, and on reference by the Secretary to the proceedings of our last meeting [remark (C)] he was requested to record the opinion of the meeting that Mr. Gibbon's proposal should be adopted, *viz.*—

"That if Government deem it necessary to restrict subletting of occupancy-holdings with a view to discourage land-jobbing, such restriction should be made applicable only to holdings that are sublet *within a given time* of a transfer or purchase."

Mr. Robert Wilson proposed that we should go further on this point, and that to prevent all land-jobbing and rack-renting no enhancement should be allowed by transferees.

It was pointed out that this was substantially the same as Mr. Macgregor's proposal at our last meeting, and also that the votes for and against that proposal were equal. On being put to the vote the Chairman declared it carried that the proposal as it stood in last meeting's proceedings be adopted by this meeting, *viz.*—

"If it be necessary to place any restriction on transfer with a view to prevent land-jobbing and rack-renting it would be better to forbid the transferee subletting or transferring within a given time, say, three years, than to provide restrictions that will affect others than transferees."

It was pointed out by Mr. Gibbon that to give effect to Mr. Wilson's proposal it would be necessary to enact that a transferee subletting the land should not recover from his sub-tenant more rent than he pays his landlord, and that he agreed with Messrs. Wilson, Macgregor and others that this was desirable in every way, but that, however stringent the law might be, it could always be evaded by the transferee demanding a bonus and letting the land from year to year—a bonus at the commencement of each year and the usual rent at the end of it.

Surrender and abandonment.—Section 95.—Messrs. Fraser and Spry pointed out to the meeting the position a sub-tenant was placed in where an occupancy-raiyat in collusion with his landlord resigned or abandoned his holding for the purpose of voiding a sub-lease. This was discussed at much length and various remedies suggested, but all were open to the objection that any recommendation made by planters would be looked on as an attempt to secure their own interests to the detriment of the zemindars. The broad fact is well-known to the officers of Government that tenants-at-will, and much more sub-tenants, are at mercy of their zemindar unless in the latter case full protection is afforded then in cases of collusion between superior and inferior landlords. Where planters are sub-tenants they must take their chance with the rest of the class.

Distrain and incidence on sub-tenants. Sections 139, 139 (2) and (3), 154, 155, 156.

The above were read and discussed, and the opinion of the meeting taken on each.

Mr. Gibbon reminded the meeting of the recommendation of the Behar Rent Committee of 1878 concurred in by the planter members.

Note.—On reference to those proceedings it is found that it was then proposed by Mr. Gibbon "that the Law of Distrain be entirely abolished, and that the summary procedure suggested in the Bengal Bill (1878) for the more speedy realization of rents be adopted in its place," and that the following members of the Behar Rent Committee voted in favour of that proposal, *viz.*—

Mr. P. M. Halliday, Commissioner of Patna.	Mr. D. N. Reid, Planter.
" C. F. Worsley, Collector of Mozufferpore.	" G. Toynbee, Collector, Patna.
" G. Anderson, Planter and Zemindar.	" M. Pinneane, Settlement Officer (Secretary).
" T. M. Gibbon "	Baboo Bimala Ch. Bhattacharjee, Deputy
" W. B. Hudson, Planter.	Magistrate.
" J. F. Browne, Judge, Patna.	

This recommendation not having been acted on, that is, Government not having provided a summary procedure to facilitate the recovery of disputed arrears of rents, we are not in a position to urge the total abolition of distrain with all its attendant abuses. But with free transfer the value of occupancy holdings in the market will be so increased that there should be no real difficulty in recovering any rent due by decree and sale of holdings, and the abolition of distrain be merely a question of time.

Protection afforded to sub-raiyat by sections 143 (2), 154, 154 (3), 155 (1), 156 noted.

Under the circumstances the meeting did not desire to record any opinion on the subject.

Incumbrances.—Chapter IV, more specially in reference to sub-letting, sections 177, 178 (b), 183, 188 (1), 189.

These were discussed and many questions put to Mr. Gibbon as to the intention of the framers of the Bill on several points.

It was ultimately decided that the following point should be put to Counsel for opinion, *viz.*—

Query.—Reading section 177 with 97—

Whether a mortgage of a portion of a holding by any occupancy-raiyat would be considered an incumbrance under section 177 and receive the same protection as is afforded to mortgages of whole holdings under the Bill?

Contract.—Section 210. The meeting was unanimously of opinion that if this section is not upheld in its entirety, the Bill will afford no real protection to the raiyat under the

present state of matters in Behar, and that Mr. Gibbon should urge strenuously the maintenance of this section in its entirety.

With a vote of thanks to the Chairman, the meeting concluded.

W. B. HUDSON,
General Secretary, B. I. P. Association.

Memorial of Committee of Orissa People's Association, dated 21st October 1884.

To His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General of India.

The humble memorial of the Committee of the
Orissa People's Association, in attack,—

MOST RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH,—That your Excellency's memorialists have come to learn with regret that the bloodthirsty zamindars, knowing that the new Tenancy Bill is sure to be passed, have been inciting the tenants of Government khas mahals to introduce the provisions of the Bill in the khas mahals.

2. The motive of this conspiracy with the tenants is that Government will at least give to the zemindars the same rights which it reserves to itself in these estates.

3. Your memorialists have also learnt with regret that the zamindars have conspired to induce some ignorant raiyats (completely under their thumb) to make some agitation against the Bill, with a view to serve their own ends, when the next Viceroy comes to Your Excellency's place, and thus delay the passing of the Bill.

4. Your memorialists beg to state that the *Statesman* newspaper has now become an organ of the zemindars, and has particular connection with the big zemindar family of Paikpara near Calcutta. The opinions of this paper should be taken to be those of zemindars only.

Your memorialists therefore pray that the Bill in question may be passed by Your Excellency in Council without delay, and that the huge conspiracy of the zemindars, got up at great expense, be put down.

And your memorialists, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

To His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General of India in Council.

The humble memorial of the middle tenure-holders of the
sub-division of Jheenedah in the district of Jessore,—

MOST HUMBLY SHEWETH,—That Your Excellency's memorialists as belonging to an important class interested in the Rent Law of the land beg leave to put their humble case before Your Excellency in Council, in order that the Tenancy Bill now pending before the Legislative Council may be so modified as to render justice to Your Excellency's memorialists as regards their rights and status.

That the holding of land by the middleman is an ancient institution of the country. That as an indispensable incident of the social constitution of the nation, this system of tenures has always been recognised by the common law of the country.

That the Code of Manu clearly indicates the origin and status of the middlemen holders by recognising the fact that between the village community and the lord of hundred villages, there was the lord of ten villages. That in the time of Mahomedan Government, the zemindar of a whole pergunnah stood in the place of the lord of hundred villages, and the dependent talookdars filled the place of the lord of ten villages.

That, unfortunately, the British Indian Government has in no case so completely misunderstood the status and rights of a class as in the case of middlemen. That the British Indian Legislature has deemed the idea of a middle holding accompanied with any degree of solid and permanent rights more or less as an anomaly, and has often attempted to bring it to the level of the farming system as in England.

That it was thus that while in 1793 that generous and noble-minded Governor-General Lord Cornwallis found the system of middle holding in the most flourishing state, and their rights and status so high as to find it necessary to recognise them as actual proprietors in many cases, just in the next year 1794 A. D. a Regulation was passed by which the further growth of the system was arbitrarily prohibited, by which in fact a fatal blow was given to the rights of middlemen as a class.

That it is not to complain to Your Excellency of old acts of injustice only that Your Excellency's memorialists now approach Your Excellency. That such is the force of natural justice and of deep-rooted customs that the Legislature found it necessary in the years 1805, 1812, and 1819 to retrace their steps from the above-mentioned unjust and arbitrary direction and to take away the bar under which the middleman as a class had been placed by prohibitory provisions such as of Regulation XLIV of 1794.

That notwithstanding whatever injustice the Legislature may have at times done to the middlemen class, the assurance by Government to enact such regulations in future as the Government may think necessary for the protection and welfare of the dependent talukdars, yet stands in the Statute Book, *viz.*, in section 8 of Regulation I of 1793.

That Your Excellency's memorialists will now enumerate the particulars in respect of which Your Excellency's memorialists feel aggrieved with reference to the provisions of the Bengal Tenancy Bill.

(a) Section 51 of Regulation 1793 provides that, except in certain cases, the rent of a middle tenure shall not be enhanced. By this the onus was thrown on the zemindar to make out any case in which he claimed the right of enhancing the rent of a middle tenure, that the case came within any of the exceptions.

The Bill, however, reproduces the above section by limiting its operation to tenures held from the time of the Permanent Settlement. Your Excellency's memorialists humbly say that this would seriously prejudice the interests of the class to which your memorialists belong.

(b) The precedents of the High Court make it open to a tenant to plead limitation in cases in which the landlord denies the rights of the tenants. Besides, it is only just that if a man can acquire absolute proprietary rights by virtue of his possessing any land for 12 years, a middleman who has held lands for 12 years should have at best the right of continuing to hold them on his paying a fair and equitable rent. In the case of a cultivating ryot, such a right is recognised. Your Excellency's memorialists pray that the Bill should have in it a clause inserted to the effect that when an intermediate tenure has been held for more than 12 years, the holder shall not be liable to ejectment if he is willing to pay a fair and equitable rent.

(c) Where the rent of an intermediate tenure is enhanceable, neither the present law nor the Bill provides for any reasonable and just rule to regulate the mode and extent of the enhancement. Your Excellency's memorialists pray that the Legislature should lay down a rule to the effect that the rent of an intermediate tenure shall not be enhanced on a higher ratio than that in which the nett assets of the tenure have increased as compared with the former assets.

(d) The minimum of profits to be left to the middlemen holders is fixed at 10 per cent. of the nett proceeds. This is too low a minimum and is by no means just and fair. Your Excellency's memorialists pray that the minimum should be fixed at 25 per cent. of the nett proceeds, and that in the exceptional cases mentioned in the Bill the minimum should be 50 per cent. of the nett proceeds.

Your Excellency's memorialists would, in conclusion, humbly say that they may have again to approach Your Excellency with further representations. They earnestly pray that Your Excellency's Government will listen to their grievances as above, and will graciously amend the Bill so as to give effect to Your Excellency's memorialists' prayer.

No. 749—9-35R., dated 31st October, 1884.

Endorsement by Under-Secretary to Government of India, Revenue and Agricultural Department.

Transferred to the Legislative Department for disposal, in continuation of the endorsement from this Office, No. 491, dated 23rd July 1884.

No. 263M., dated 8th September, 1884.

From—N. S. ALEXANDER, Esq., Commissioner, Dacca Division,
To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

With reference to your memorandum No. 902T.—R., dated 24th June last, forwarding for report a petition from the disaffected raiyats of the estate of the late Babu Dwarkanath Roy Chaudhri, complaining of the oppressions committed upon them, I have the honor to submit herewith copy of a letter No. 26T., dated 19th ultimo, from the Collector of Mymensingh, and to refer you to paragraphs 5 and 6 of my letter No. 51M., dated 28th April last, on which the Government Resolution of 21st June 1884 was passed.

2. It appears to me that, unless Bindu Bashini Chaudhrani agrees to the terms settled by Mr. Glazier, it will be best for the Court of Wards to take charge of the estate in the interests of the minor proprietors. Little else can be done until some such law as the new Tenancy Bill is passed. Such cases as these and that of pargana Mymensingh clearly show the necessity for the early passing of some enactment to enable the authorities to deal satisfactorily with them.

3. With reference to the petition of the raiyats of pargana Attia, zillah Mymensingh, received with your memorandum, one exactly similar was received with your No. 550-237L.—R., dated 9th February 1884, and replied to by me in this office letter No. 616M., dated 6th March last.

4. The papers received with your memorandum under reply are herewith returned.

No. 26T, dated 19th August, 1884.

From—E. G. GLAZIER, Esq., Collector, Mymensingh.

To—The Commissioner, Dacca Division.

In reply to your No. 235M., dated 9th instant, I have the honour to report on the subject of the petition of the raiyats of Bindu Bashini Chaudhrani.

2. Mr. Waller, in his letter No. 114, dated 16th April last, has already referred to the circumstances of this estate in paragraphs 22 to 26, and it is not necessary for me to repeat what he has said. In his 25th paragraph he has shown how, by excessive enhancement, the rents have been raised from Rs. 40,000 to Rs. 1,50,000, or nearly fourfold in the course of a few years.

3. On leaving the Rent Bill Conference at Dacca, I went round by Tangail with a view to effect, if possible, a settlement between the zemindar and her raiyats. I visited the lady at Sontosh, and talked with her about the matter, and she agreed to abide by any decision I might come to with the raiyats. On the 11th instant I held a mass meeting of the raiyats at Pingnah; they came from all the disaffected villages, and there must have been about 3,000 present. They told me that the rents of the kabuliyaats of 1286 had not been collected in full; that the late zemindar had taken these documents on the understanding that the full rates were not to be enforced, and he had not done so; but that, on his death, the widow tried to collect rents at the further enhanced rates of the kabuliyaats of 1289, and that consequently the last instalment of the rents of 1288, and the whole of those of 1289, 1290, and the current year remained unpaid. They said they were willing to pay at the rates of 1285, or at the rates of neighbouring villages belonging to other zemindars. After some discussion they agreed to pay an increase of eight annas in the rupee on the rates of 1285 to cover all the cesses they had been in the habit of paying. They also agreed to pay all the arrears in instalments extending over three years. They gave me a written statement containing these terms, signed by a number of their chief men representing all their villages. As this enhancement would, according to Mr. Waller's calculation, give a rental of Rs. 1,05,000, I consider the settlement would be an equitable one.

4. Mr. Donough, the nominal manager of the zemindar and the chief amla were present and agreed to the conditions on behalf of their employer; but afterwards they said they must go and consult her again, as the reduction was more than she had anticipated. I have heard from Mr. Donough since that he had not been able to see the Chaudhrani, as her children were ill, and the matter remains at present in abeyance.

5. I have looked carefully into the criminal cases between Bindu Bashini and the raiyats, as already reported in my No. 13, dated 9th instant. The latter have complained chiefly of being carried off by the zemindars' *laltials* and confined. One man, Hari Nath Chong, said to have been carried off in March 1883, has never been found. The police reported the case false; but it was, after an enquiry by a Magistrate, declared to be true. No one has yet been tried for the original abduction, and I have now ordered this to be done. The police reported another case of confinement (of May last) to be false. The District Superintendent, who re-investigated it locally, reported it to be true, and it will now come under judicial enquiry. In still a third case of confinement, which occurred in March last, one man was convicted by the Deputy Magistrate of Tangail on the 30th July, and sentenced to three months' imprisonment.

6. The only serious case against the raiyats was tried at Jamalpore, as the occurrence took place on the borders of the two sub-divisions. The special police entertained at the cost of the zemindar and some of the thana force tried to arrest a body of raiyats who were assembled to make a levy for the expenses of their combination. The police were driven off and hustled, and one of the zemindar's men was hit. The case was a good deal exaggerated. Over a hundred were identified as having taken part in the riot; 43 were sent up for trial; the Sub-divisional Officer convicted 25, and the Judge on appeal sustained the conviction in the case of ten. The sentences were from eight months' to one year's imprisonment. I have looked through the records in concert with the present Sub-divisional Officer of Jamalpore, and there is probably a case against two others still at large.

7. The special police—three head-constables and 12 constables—entertained since last January at the cost of the zemindar, and distributed through the villages, have doubtless been a constant source of irritation to the raiyats, and have clearly not prevented oppression by the zemindar. I removed them when at the spot on the 11th instant, as the District Superintendent reported that he did not anticipate any further breach of the peace. The thana police should be able to cope with anything that occurs, and the presence of small dribblets of police in the villages seems rather provocative of breaches of the peace than otherwise.

8. This case would be one to be brought under the operations of the settlement rules of the new law if it had been in force, and, I may add, shows the necessity of the provision which we adopted at the Dacca Conference, to the effect that when a settlement of rents is in progress the Collector should have power to take over the management of the estate and to retain it as long as he judged necessary. The zemindar might otherwise ignore the whole proceeding. It is one thing to make a settlement and quite another to ensure its working. But if the Collector

had charge of the estate for a time, not only would his work of settlement be easier, but the arrangements made would have some chance of permanency.

9. Whether the estate should be brought under the Court of Wards is the subject of separate correspondence. I need only add that if the agreement I have striven to bring about can be carried out, there seems no immediate necessity for doing so, but if it fails, there are only two alternatives—either to bring the estate under the court at once, or to wait for the new law.

No. 2234T—R., dated 11th October, 1884.

Endorsement by Officiating Under-Secretary to Government of Bengal.

Copy, with copy of the enclosure, submitted to the Secretary to the Government of India in the Revenue and Agricultural Department for information, in continuation of Mr. MacDonnell's letter No. 866T.—R., dated 21st June 1884.

No. 2759, dated Calcutta, the 3rd November 1884.

From—C. S. BAYLEY, Esq., Officiating Registrar, High Court.

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, Legislative Department.

In continuation of my letter No. 2611, dated the 15th September, 1884, I am directed to forward, for the consideration and orders of His Excellency the Governor General in Council the enclosed printed minute by the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Tottenham on the Bengal Tenancy Bill.

2. Seventy-nine spare copies of the minute are forwarded separately.

Minute by the Hon'ble Mr. Justice L. R. Tottenham, dated 18th October 1884.

Until the vacation I was unable to find time for the study of the provisions of this Bill with a view to offering the Government of India any remarks upon the subject in answer to the invitation contained in the Secretary's letter No. 785 of the 5th of May last. At this late period I should hesitate to trouble the Government with any observations, none of which probably will be new to the Council, were it not that I feel that as many as possible of the Judges of this Court should express their opinions, whether held in common with numerous other persons or peculiar to themselves individually.

2. The only Judge who, as far as I am aware, has submitted to Government any detailed criticism of the Bill is Mr. Justice Field in his minute dated the 11th of September. As I entirely agree in many of his comments on particular sections of the Bill, while not assenting to others, I propose for the sake of brevity, and to avoid repetition, to state in order the paragraphs of his minute dealing with sections of the Bill in which I concur. As to some of the other sections I think his remarks are based on misconception of what the Bill intends, and as to others, while not considering it necessary to express assent to his observations, it does not follow that I dissent from them.

3. I would endorse Mr. Justice Field's remarks in following portions of his minute:—

The first 54 lines of para. 2.

The last 3 lines of para. 4.

The substance of para. 5, as to the imperfect definition of "Tenure-holder."

Paras. 19 and 20.

Para. 23 as to clauses (a) (d) of Section 31, and as to clause (f) in regard the limit proposed to be put upon the right of transfer of a right of occupancy. But I should prefer to have the right made non-transferable at all at the pleasure of the raiyat.

Para. 25 as to allowing the zemindar a right of pre-emption in the case of a gift to a person other than the donor's heir, and as to sub-section 6 of section 31.

Para. 28.

" 29.

" 30.

" 33 as to the substitution of staple "food-crops" for "staple crops" in clause (b), section 43,

" 36.

" 39.

" 40.

" 43.

" 46.

" 61.

" 69.

" 64.

" 80.

" 88.

" 90.

" 92 I would have no presumption on either one side or the other.

" 96.

" 107 First part.

" 112.

4. The criticisms in these paragraphs are chiefly directed to the wording of the Bill; and I think they usefully indicate particulars in which that wording may be improved, while they do not generally question the principles of the Bill. Assuming for the present these principles to be correct, I would offer one or two other suggestions which I think might usefully be adopted.

5. I do not understand, as seems to be apprehended by Sir R. Garth and Mr. Justice Field, that it is intended to exclude from the operation of the proposed Act tenants on lands belonging to, or under the management of, the Government, so far at least as their legal status is concerned. I gather indeed from the contemplated repeal of Act VIII of 1879 of the Bengal Council that it is intended, as regards the important subject of enhancement, to place Government in the same position as other landlords: but if there is, as Mr. Justice Field opines, anything in the definition of "Estate" in section 3, which makes it doubtful whether the Bill is intended to apply to Government estates, this doubt should be removed by the amendment of the definition. The Government still retains to itself a far more advantageous position than that of other landlords in respect of realising rents by means of the Public Demands Act, VII (B. C.) of 1880.

6. It seems obvious from what both Sir R. Garth and Mr. Justice Field have written that some better definition of tenure-holder must be devised; and I hope that in so doing the Council will see its way to laying down some clear distinction between a tenure-holder and a raiyat. I admit the difficulty of framing satisfactory definitions; but it is one which should be dealt with by the Legislature, and not merely shifted on to the Courts by referring them to supposed "local customs," the present existence of which is undefined; but the future invention of which will be as multitudinous and various as the exigencies which demand them.

7. In section 7 and many others throughout the Bill there occurs the expression "fair and equitable." The two epithets surely mean the same thing in all these sections: but if the two words are enacted together we shall have acute Pleaders and Munsifs proving that what is "fair" is not "equitable" and *vice versa*.

8. Amongst the incidents of permanent tenures referred to in Section 11, I should like one to be that they may be relinquished; and that the Bill should contain provision for their holders giving them up, if so minded. It would be a new incident certainly, but the Bill contemplates so many innovations that novelty can hardly be regarded by the Council as an objection.

9. Section 13 appears to me to be superfluous, the very nature of a patni tenure implying the power to let the land comprised in it.

10. In the last line of sub-section 2, section 16, the sense seems to require that after the word "cause" should be inserted "to the contrary," or words to that effect.

11. I do not understand the principle upon which the penalty of fine is imposed under section 22 (2). By whom is it to be adjudged and levied? and for whose benefit?

12. A raiyat holding at a fixed rent is really what has hitherto been known as an istamrari mocruridar. Would it not be as well to recognize him as a tenure-holder in all respects, and not have to enquire after local custom in determining whether those who hold under him can acquire a right of occupancy.

13. As regards the right of occupancy, I think it should be incapable of being acquired in respect of land in regard to which the tenant has a right only to the natural produce of it, *e. g.*, the right to cut grass or to turn in cattle to graze. A case recently came before me in which a Munsiff and a Subordinate Judge had both held that a person to whom this grass right had been let for more than 12 years had acquired a right of occupancy in the land, notwithstanding that by the terms of his written agreement it was clear that he had no right at all in the land itself.

14. I am very strongly impressed with the injustice exposed by Sir R. Garth and Mr. Justice Field of the presumption created by section 26 (2).

15. I think too that the right of occupancy as to land held by a raiyat should not be presumed to extend to all land held by him in the same estate, which may comprise several pergunnahs. If he be given a right of occupancy in all that he may hold in one *village*, there is no reason for granting him further indulgence at the expense of the proprietor.

16. As to the transferability of the right of occupancy, I entirely agree with those who are opposed to its recognition by the Bill. It was not an incident of the right, as far as I can make out, at the time of the permanent settlement: and I am convinced that it is a boon that is likely to do more harm than good to the raiyat, while its recognition may work great mischief and annoyance to the zemindar. Its justification seems to rest chiefly upon the principle, which this Bill very largely assumes, that the right of the raiyat is equal or superior to that of the zemindar; and that consequently he has as good a right as the zemindar to alienate the land of the estate. It seems to me that this principle is not a true one, and that the right

of the raiyat is limited to holding it as a tenant so long as he pays his rent and uses the land in a proper manner.

17. On the other hand, I think the occupancy ryot should be subject to ejectment for non-payment of rent. It should only be by suit, and such conditions should be attached to the incident as would protect the raiyat from undeserved hardship. But there are many cases in which the fear of ejectment should, I think, be retained. Most officers who have served in Lower Bengal are familiar with combinations of ryots to withhold their rents though well able to pay them, and in such cases I think the penalty of ejectment is fully deserved, and should be left in the hands of the zemindar to be applied through the Court.

18. Another matter which I think should be provided for in the Bill is the repudiation by a tenant of his landlord's title. Judicial decisions have established the tenant's liability to be ejected at the landlord's suit under such circumstances, and it seems to me that the law should either affirm or negative this principle.

19. The only observation which I wish to make on the subject of enhancement of rent is that I do not appreciate the justice of limiting the landlord to a certain percentage of the existing rent by way of enhancement, if the facts which entitle him to enhanced rent entitle him to more than that percentage. Suppose a ryot is paying less than half the prevailing rate, I do not see why the enhancement should not extend to that rate by the progressive steps contemplated in section 49.

20. As to commutation of rent in kind to a money rent, I am of opinion that, unless both landlord and tenant wish for it, the Collector should have no power to make it. Sub-section 6 of section 53 gives the officer power to refuse the application if opposed; but the earlier part of the section makes no provision for informing one party of the application having been made, but simply empowers the officer, upon the application being made, to determine the sum to be paid and to make order accordingly. This is probably an oversight.

21. Referring to section 59, I am of opinion that if it is necessary to interfere with the landlord's right to get rid of a non-occupancy ryot on the expiry of his lease, there is no sufficient ground for requiring him to give six months' notice; three months' notice would be ample. The provision that a suit for ejectment shall not be instituted after six months from the expiration of the term seems to indicate that, should the landlord fail to bring a suit to eject the ryot, who has had, say, a three years' lease, within six months from the expiry of that lease, the raiyat thereby acquires an immediate right of occupancy, for if he cannot be displaced he can stay as long as he likes. The zemindars have, I think, a right to be protected against such a contingency.

22. Sub-section 7 of section 60 unduly facilitates the acquisition of a right of occupancy against the will of the proprietor of the land, and is therefore to my mind objectionable. Indeed the whole Chapter VI goes far to cut away the proprietor's power to do what he likes with his own land.

23. If an under-raiyat, by the operation of some local custom now supposed to exist or hereafter to be invented, acquires a right of occupancy, is it to hold good only as against his immediate lessor or also as against all superior holders, and to be transferable and subject to all the incidents of its parent occupancy right?

24. I deprecate the interference of Government in such a matter as the fixing of rent days as between landlords and tenants, contemplated in section 67. In the absence of specific agreement I would simply direct the court to assume that the rent is payable in quarterly or half-yearly instalments as may seem best to the Legislature.

25. I would strike out sub-section 8 of section 72.

26. It is fair that a raiyat ejected from his holding should receive any compensation to which he is equitably entitled for improvements made by himself, or any person from whom he has inherited the holding; but if he himself acquired the holding by sale in execution of a decree, which will sometimes be the case if the raiyat's right is made transferable, why should he receive compensation for improvements made by his predecessor in title? (section 93).

27. Sub-section 2 of section 94 seems somewhat officious, unless it be intended that, except by special enactment, the landlord and tenant may not settle any question amicably between themselves.

28. Two years seems to me an excessively long period to be allowed to a raiyat who has ostensibly abandoned his holding for bringing a suit to recover possession. I think that a condition precedent to the hearing of any such suit should be the deposit of the rent due for the period during which the raiyat has ceased to pay. On what sort of ground is it intended that he should get a decree for possession?

29. In the chapter on managers, it is provided in section 107 that a manager shall receive remuneration by salary or otherwise. I think this should be dispensed with where a co-owner is appointed manager. He will probably get advantages from the position which will render salary no object.

30. With reference to sections 129 and 130, I should be inclined to make the Commissioner's order final as to the entries in the table of rates, inasmuch as the local officers must possess more knowledge of local rates than will be available in the offices of the Board of Revenue, or of the Bengal Secretariat.

31. As regards the proposed record of a proprietor's private lands, I am of opinion that, unless the proprietor desires to have it made, there should be no authority vested in the Government or the Collector to interfere in the matter.

32. In the chapter on Judicial Procedure I should like to see provision made for the case in which the raiyat pleads that the rent claimed was payable to a third party, and has been paid to him. Section 164 does not meet this case, which will therefore frequently arise.

33. The proviso to section 168 gives the District Judge power now vested in the High Court under section 622 of the Civil Procedure. I think it should be explained that to make a mistake in law is not an illegal act. Applications are constantly being made to the High Court for relief under Section 622 in respect of errors of law in legal decisions.

34. When the Court makes a decree under section 173 declaring the liability of the defendant to pay a fair rent for the land in his possession, is the decree to have retrospective effect, and for how far back? This matter ought to be settled.

35. No provision is made for the realization of rent separately by different co-sharers, nor as to the effect of sales in execution of decrees for shares of the rent. Some Members of the Council must be aware that there are very many properties in Bengal held by two or more co-sharers, who have for a long period peaceably and, with the assent of the tenants, separately collected their undisputed shares of the rent, and have, when necessary, brought suits and obtained decrees for such shares. In such cases the provisions of section 102 as to Managers do not apply, nor do I suppose that the legislature intends to put a stop to long established and unobjectionable practices. Suits therefore will continue to lie in many cases for fractional shares of rent, and provision ought to be made for the execution of decrees to be obtained in such suits.

36. Before concluding I think it right to express very briefly my opinion of some of the leading principles of the Bill. That it goes far beyond the scope of reproducing the relation of landlord and tenant as it existed at the time of the permanent settlement is not to my mind a matter for objection. But I do think it objectionable that the mutual rights of the two should be arbitrarily changed to the advantage of one side and the detriment of the other. I think that the Bill tends in this direction by ignoring to a considerable extent the zemindar's status as proprietor; and by unduly exalting the status of the tenant into what really becomes that of a joint-proprietor with the larger interest. The impossibility of the zemindar's retaining any portion of his lands, except his khamar, free from permanent tenures and occupancy-rights, and the arbitrary restrictions put upon his admitted right to enhance rents under certain circumstances, as well as the multitudinous occasions for interference with his affairs by the Local Government or the Revenue Officers, combine to lower his position very seriously, and I think unnecessarily.

37. I think the power of summary distraint should not be taken from the landlord. In some parts of the country it is the only means of securing the rent, and the plan now proposed to be substituted is more tedious, uncertain, and costly.

38. I am strongly averse to the prohibition of free contract between landlord and tenant unless there can be shown better reason for it than I have yet seen. What is true, or may be true, of Behar is not true of Bengal; and to make one Act apply equally to both is hardly possible. The Bengali raiyat as a rule is fully competent to take care of his own interests, and he is less likely now to be victimized than he was in former days when there was less education and fewer local lawyers.

39. Finally I would say that, while there is much in the Bill that promises to be useful, it appears to me to be in other respects unpractical, as tending to complicate, instead of simplify and secure the relation between landlord and tenant; to foster litigation and bring down the interference of the authorities, rather than promote peace and mutual confidence between the two classes, while impartially maintaining the respective rights of each.

No. 2943, dated 20th November 1884.

From—The Officiating Registrar, High Court, Calcutta,

To—The Secretary to the Government of India, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT.

In continuation of my letter No. 2759, dated the 3rd instant, I am directed to forward, for the consideration and orders of His Excellency the Governor General in Council, the enclosed printed Minute recorded by the Honourable Mr. Justice Cunningham on the Bengal Tenancy Bill.

2. Seventy-nine spare copies of the Minute are also forwarded herewith.

Minute by the Hon'ble Mr. JUSTICE CUNNINGHAM.

Concurrence of Secretary of State and the Government of India as to principles of the Bill.—The facts which necessitate legislation on the law of landlord and tenant in Bengal, the principles by which legislation on the subject must be governed, and the general lines in which it should be framed, were, as long ago as December 1882, agreed upon by the Secretary of State and the Government of India.* Accordingly, in inviting an expression of opinion as to the Bill framed on the lines thus laid down, the Government of India cannot be understood as intending to re-open controverted points, upon which, after years of enquiry and elaborate discussion, an agreement had been arrived at, but rather as inviting consideration as to the degree in which the Bill is calculated to effect the objects which the Legislature admittedly had in view.

* The Government of India, to Secretary of State, 21st March 1882.
Secretary of State to Government of India, 17th August 1882.
Secretary of State to Government of India, 11th January 1893.

2. Opposition still to be encountered.—But it is obvious that a strenuous effort will still be made by those who consider their interests endangered, and by the advocates of those interests, to obstruct the passing of any measure which, in any degree, embodies the principles which these high authorities have, concurrently, sanctioned for the forthcoming legislation. The opposition is fortified by high authority; the Bill is denounced, not only by interested partisans, but by officials of eminent position, as unjust, impolitic, inconsistent with the good faith which the British Government is bound to maintain, as involving ruin to the zemindars, and scarcely less serious injury to the ryots. A powerful organization of resistance has been formed, and is actively at work in India and England. Numerous meetings have been held all over the Province. Numerous petitions have been submitted from influential quarters to the Government, the Secretary of State, and to Parliament. A controversy, so ardent and so prolonged, is necessarily unfavourable to calm thought or temperate language. Free recourse is had to every topic which can excite odium or appeal to prejudice. In the heat of argument assertions of the most unfounded character are confidently made; facts, for which the most unquestionable evidence exists, are recklessly denied; principles on which every political economist and every civilized Government have been long agreed are either tacitly ignored or boldly called in question. It is obvious that those who believe a measure of the character of the one in question to be expedient, and even necessary, must be prepared to defend it, *ab initio*, and for this purpose to reproduce facts and arguments which, it might have been supposed, had long ago done their work and been relegated, as historical curiosities, to the armoury of obsolete disputes. It may be worth while, accordingly, to recapitulate, in as concise a manner as may be, the problem with which we are confronted in Bengal, the facts which appear to be satisfactorily established with reference to it, and the principles which, unless the Government of India is to abandon not only its own carefully considered policy, but the precedent of every civilized Government and the axioms of every system of political economy, must govern its solution.

3. Report of the Government of Bengal, 15th September 1884.—In speaking of the Bill, I shall, as a rule, speak of the measure as modified by the proposals of the Bengal Government in its Report of 15th September 1884. That letter represents the conclusions at which the Lieutenant-Governor of the Province has, after a consideration of the opinions of the local officers best acquainted with the subject, arrived. Much stress has been laid by some of the opponents of the Bill on the circumstance that though there were repeated controversies as to matters of fact, no witnesses were examined before the Select Committee. It is worth while, accordingly, to notice the procedure which has been adopted on the present occasion for obtaining a knowledge of the facts of the case and an expression of opinion from all classes concerned. The Bill was first published in the *Calcutta* and vernacular Gazettes, and translations were made available to the public at a nominal price. The Board of Revenue, the Commissioners, District Officers, such Judicial Officers as had special acquaintance with the subject, were then addressed, as also were the various public bodies who are concerned in the discussion. A circular letter was then issued, directing the attention of the officers consulted to the chief points for enquiry and report. The District Officers were directed to make enquiries on all obscure points, to consult all those interested in the subject and willing to give advice, and then to meet their Commissioners and discuss with them the clauses of the Bill in the light of actual facts prevailing in each district. These instructions were carried out, and "conferences" were held in the various divisions, at which the local officials discussed the topics of the Bill from their own point of view. The Government of Bengal, with good reason as it would seem, regards the evidence and opinions thus collected as of the greatest value. Such a course appears to be in every way superior to the examination of witnesses before a Select Committee in Calcutta. Instead of a single inquiry, conducted by a Committee, the majority of whom entertained and had already avowed a decided opinion on one side of the controversy, the procedure followed provided for a number of local inquiries, conducted by officers whose views were, presumably, as favourable to the one side as the other; who knew the people whom they questioned and the quarters in which valuable information was most likely to be got; who had the advantage of comparing their own knowledge with that of neighbouring officials, and who could collate and discuss the evidence at leisure. No such body of weighty and well considered evidence could be got together by a Select Committee without an expenditure of time, money and labour, and a derangement of the administrative

machinery of the country, which would be quite inadmissible. The Government has, in its executive district officers an excellent machine for collecting information, and I believe the examination of witnesses before a Select Committee would be in every way less effectual in getting at really trustworthy facts or really well-considered opinions. The Government of Bengal says that the evidence "reflected impartially every shade of opinion," and that it is remarkable for the proof it affords of the necessity, not only of legislation, but of legislation in the general direction of the Bill, inasmuch as even those officers who are most opposed to the measure admit by their comments the necessity for improvement in the law. Now, which is more convincing, the opinion thus arrived at by the Lieutenant-Governor of the Province, or the vague and violent language of those who assure us that no change is expedient, and that the proposed law will be the ruin of the country? When the Government is solemnly warned against the proposed legislation as unjust, unnecessary and dangerous, and urged either to withdraw or materially modify it, the answer appears to be that an overwhelming majority of responsible

• "The Bill is a real and earnest attempt to improve the position of the ryots of Bengal, and to open to them a prospect of freedom and independence, which they have not hitherto enjoyed, by clearly defining their rights, and by placing restrictions on the power of the zemindars such as ought long ago to have been provided. This being so, I think that the Bill ought to pass into law." (Lord Canning in assenting to Act X of 1859, 26th April 1859.)

witnesses agree that some change is imperatively necessary; that the necessity for change was felt almost immediately after the passing of Act X of 1859; that that Act has in many important particulars produced results the very opposite to those contemplated by its framers as regards the well-being of the ryot;* and that the evils thus produced can be met only by the exercise of the Government's right of interference on his behalf.

Since the affairs and troubles in Pabna in 1873, the necessity has been admitted to be urgent.

4. **Sir A. Eden's letter of 27th July 1881.**—All these conclusions were formally stated in the Report of the Rent Commission appointed by Lord Lytton in 1879, and in Sir A. Eden's letter of 27th July 1881, which it is greatly to be desired that those who deprecate legislation should consult. Have the general conclusions there set forth been confirmed or shaken by the information elicited during the last three years? It appears to me that it is impossible, having regard to the concurrent opinions of the persons most qualified to judge with information and insight, to doubt that some change is essential, and that the State is not only at liberty, but bound to interfere with the object of protecting the agricultural tenantry of Bengal from the natural and inevitable results which, in the absence of legislative protection, the circumstances of the Province must inevitably entail upon them.

5. **Secretary of State's letter to Government of India, 17th August 1882.**—This, as already observed, is no longer, so far as Indian officials are concerned, a mere matter of opinion, inasmuch as the Secretary of State has pronounced an authoritative decision that, "whatever may have been the former intentions of Lord Cornwallis, it is fully established that the reservations made at the time of the Permanent Settlement give the Government of India the full right of interposition for the amelioration of the condition of the Bengal peasantry," and that legislative interference is justified by the present circumstances of the country. We may take it, moreover, as laid down by the same high authority on the same occasion, that the object of the present legislation is "to settle the land-law of Bengal on a firmer, juster and more satisfactory basis; to keep the cultivation of the soil in the hands of a substantial peasantry, able to withstand the vicissitudes of seasons; and to promote the accumulation of wealth, the sound growth of credit and the progress of agricultural improvement."

6. **Circumstances of Bengal which justify legislation.**—This decision, however, is vehemently contested. The landlords and their advocates boldly assert their right "to do as they will with their own" as regards all tenants not at present enjoying legislative or customary protection, and denounce the proposal to increase that protection, or to afford it to any other class, as grossly unjust, a breach of faith, and revolutionary. It may be well, therefore, to glance at the facts necessary to support the propositions, *first*, that the special circumstances of large portions of Bengal are such as, if uncounteracted, to ensure the degradation and misery incidental to a redundant agricultural population crowding on the soil; and, *secondly*, that the Government has the right to interfere for their protection, and is bound to exercise that right.

7. **Local Extent of Bill.**—It should be premised that the Bill does not, unless hereafter specially extended, apply to the Orissa Division or to those portions of the Province known as the "Scheduled Districts," *viz.*, the Julpigori and Darjeeling districts, the Hill Tracts of Chittagong, the Sonthal Pergunnahs, the Chota Nagpore Division, and some other localities. Two only of the four Provinces which constitute the Lieutenant-Governorship of Bengal are affected, *viz.*, Bengal and Behar, and from these must further be excluded the wild district, lying between the two, known as the Sonthal Pergunnahs, the wild and mountainous Chittagong Hill Tracts on the extreme east of the Province, and the two East Himalayan districts. Bengal Proper contains 70,000 square miles, exclusive of 5,000 or 6,000 miles of unsurveyed and unreclaimed land in the Sunderbuns. Behar contains 44,000 square miles. The districts in these two Provinces to which the Act will not apply aggregate about 15,000 square miles, and contain a population of rather more than 2½ millions. Orissa contains 9,000 square miles and Chota Nagpore 26,000. The result is that of the 150,000 square miles in Bengal, the Bill will apply to 1,00,000, and will not, unless specially extended, apply to 50,000.

The inhabitants of Bengal and Behar number 58½ millions, or 84 per cent. of the entire population of the Province. The population immediately affected by the Bill will, accordingly, be about 56 millions.

8. Dense population of Bengal.—These two provinces constituting, as they do, the valleys and delta of several magnificent rivers, and enjoying a rich alluvial soil, a plentiful rainfall, an easily-raised crop, and a tropical climate, present conditions highly favourable to the multiplication of the human race, and the population is denser than any known in the agricultural districts of Europe. Bengal has a ratio of 505 to the square mile and Behar of 527. This ratio, however, is greatly exceeded in particular localities. In Behar, for instance, the Patna, Mozufferpore and Sarun districts show a ratio over 800 to the square mile, and the Darbhanga district 789. In Bengal, the Hooghly district shows 737 to the square mile; Howrah 1,130; the Jessore district has 682, and the 24 Pargunnahs 679; the Panna district has 710, and Rajshahye 566. Two districts in the Dacca Division show over 700 inhabitants. When we compare these figures with other agricultural countries, the contrast is remarkable. Ireland has 181 inhabitants to the square mile, France 180, Italy 238, Prussia 185, Austria 175, Belgium and England, with their huge and urban populations and enormous non-agricultural resources, 486 and 485 respectively.

9. Exclusively agricultural character of the population.—The first fact, then, with which we are confronted is that we have to deal with a population of unexampled density. But this is not the only circumstance which has to be considered in the case of the inhabitants of Bengal, or which renders it, *a priori*, probable that interference on the part of the ruling power would be necessary in past times and will be necessary in future. There is, first, the character of the population, which may be said to be, as regards large portions of the Province, exclusively agricultural. There are no great manufacturing cities—indeed no cities at all in the European sense of the word—except Calcutta, Patna, Gya, Bhagalpore, Dacca, and two or three more. In the whole Province there are only 11 cities with more than 50,000 inhabitants, and only 38 with more than 20,000. More than half of all towns and villages contain less than 200 inhabitants, while 87 per cent. are “little hamlets with less than 500 inhabitants.” The entire urban population is 3½ millions, about 5½ per cent. of the whole, an exceptionally low proportion, as compared with 66 per cent. in England and Wales, 31 per cent. in France, 22 per cent. in America, and even 17 per cent. in Bombay, 9 per cent. in Madras and the North-Western Provinces, and 11 per cent. in the Punjab. Of 34½ millions of male, 15½ millions were recorded in the census of 1882 as “agricultural,” against 2½ millions “manufacturing and industrial;” and it is certain that the class designated “indefinite and non-productive,” which numbers 15½ millions, contains large numbers who, in one way or another, look to the soil for support. There is no great manufacturing industry. The exports of Bengal are all either raw produce or agricultural produce, very slightly manipulated by the producing agriculturists. Again, there is the greatest reluctance to a change of residence: while in some parts of the province the population is 869 to the square mile, and there is practically no waste land, so that the competition for agricultural holdings is intense; in others there are still great tracts untilled simply for want of population, and the competition is not of tenants for land, but of landlords for tenants. The increase of railway communication will, no doubt, in course of time, affect this state of things; but it may be doubted whether the aversion of the agricultural classes to leave their abodes will be, for many years to come, modified in any appreciable degree.

10. Increase of population.—The population, notwithstanding a high normal mortality and occasional severe epidemics, shows a steady increase. The 62 millions of inhabitants in 1872 had grown into 69½ millions in 1881, an increase more than 10 per cent. in 9 years. This rate will, no doubt, tend to rather increase than diminish. The absolute peace, the increased power of counteracting the mortality of famines which canals and railways afford, the larger extent to which several of the other great causes of mortality are being brought within control, all tend in the direction of higher ratio of increase. On the other hand, not only are there few of the prudential checks or habits which in some countries tend to arrest the growth of an agricultural population, but the social customs and religious belief of large classes necessitate early marriages, and so encourage reproduction at an age scarcely beyond childhood. The entire female population is married before the 20th year, and more than 10 per cent. before the 10th year. The same causes conduce to the habit of the entire family living on, if possible, on the holding, and in the ancestral dwelling-house, and to the common enjoyment of the holding by all the members.

11. Increasing severity of the struggle for life.—Life, there is good reason to believe, is gradually becoming a harder struggle to large classes of the community. Prices have increased, and are increasing. The price of rice has doubled in the course of the last century; that of wheat has increased in a still higher ratio. At Patna two independent sets of statistics established the result that the price of rice has risen within the last 15 years between 21 and 23 per cent. This state of things suggests increased wealth to those who have produce to sell, increased difficulty of life to those who have to buy. The existence of some pressure is favoured by a calculation made by Sir E. Baring when Financial Member of Council, *viz.*, that the crop yield of Bengal bears a lower proportion to the population than that of any part of India except the North-Western Provinces and Oudh, *viz.*, Rs. 15-9 per head, as against Rs. 21 per head in the

Central Provinces, Rs. 22-4 per head in Bombay, Rs. 19 per head in Madras, and Rs. 18-5 per head in the Punjab. Making all allowances for the considerations that would modify this estimate (as, e.g., that the crop may not mean the entire agricultural outcome, and that there are non-agricultural sources of wealth), the fact does still tend in the direction of proving that there is less agricultural wealth in Bengal than elsewhere, and that the pressure on the soil is greater.

12. Different interests in the soil. First that of the State.—Such being the main economic conditions of the province, we have next to consider the mode in which the proprietors and possessors' interests in the soil are distributed. The first interest is that of the Government, which by the immemorial and unquestioned law of India, is entitled, as the Ruling Power, to a definite portion of the profits of the soil. Considerable changes have, since the declaration of the Permanent Settlement in 1793, from various causes, taken place both in the amount of revenue and the size and number of estates. Many of the large zemindaries were broken up in the years immediately succeeding that declaration, owing to the failure of the zemindars to pay the Government demand. From the same cause a considerable number of estates have subsequently reverted to Government. Another increase in the land revenue has arisen from the transfer to the Government of certain police duties, to which, under the Permanent Settlement, the zemindars were liable. Escheats and the resumption of invalid rent-free tenures have still further enlarged the Government revenue-roll. In 1882-83 the revenue of those portions of the Province, in which the Permanent Settlement was originally carried out, stood at Rs. 3,62,00,000.

13. Owners of Estates. Land Revenue of Bengal.—The owners of the 110,456 estates in Bengal Proper and Behar, by whom the largest portion of this revenue is paid, are classified as follows:—

97,696 small estates under 500 acres.
12,304 estates from 500 to 20,000 acres.
457 estates above 20,000 acres.

In other words, less than $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. are large properties of over 20,000 acres, 11 per cent. range between 500 and 20,000 acres, and 88 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. are petty properties of less than 500 acres. Among the large estates are some of the size of a small principality; one estate, for instance, in Chumparun consists of 1,187,400 acres, more than half the revenue-paying land of the district. It is noticeable that in Behar (the Patna Division and Bhagalpore) the tendency to sub-division has of late years been very pronounced. The 25,800 estates in the Patna Division of 1882 had grown into 49,000 in 1882. A large increase has also taken place in Bhagalpore. Of the entire number of estates, no less than 2,706, with a revenue of nearly 20 lakhs, are the exclusive property of Government. Of these, some are under the direct management of Government, some are let out on farming leases. Besides these, the Government has under direct management various estates owing to the recusancy of the owners. Altogether there were in 1882-83, 1,061 estates, with a revenue of 26 lakhs, under direct Government control.

14. Rental of Bengal, 17 millions sterling.—The 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ millions of revenue thus paid to Government is, of course, but a fraction of the entire payments made from the soil. In Bengal there are no agricultural statistics, and nothing accurate is known of the area or crops. The area under cultivation, however, has been estimated at about 54 or 55 millions of acres, of which 48 millions may be regarded as under food-crops, and six or seven millions under non-food-crops. The Famine Commission estimating the average yield to be 11 bushels per acre, the food-crop to be worth £5 per ton, and the non-food acreage at £3 per acre, estimated the crop outcome at 103 millions sterling. In addition to this, there would be the outcome of dairies, gardens, forests, &c., which might perhaps be taken at one-third of the crop value, or, say, 30 millions. The Government* estimate the average yield of rice at 12 to 15 maunds (984 to 1,230 lbs.) of raw grain, or 10 or 12 maunds of husked rice per acre, a somewhat

* Administration Report for 1882-83, page 4.

larger outturn than the figures available to the Famine Commission appeared to justify. Assuming the average outcome to be half a ton (1,120 lbs. per acre), this would give a gross outturn of 27 millions of tons, worth, at £5 per ton, 135 millions sterling. Out of this a population of 70 millions has to be supported, the land to be sown for the next year's crop, and the export trade, now very considerable, to be maintained, and the rent to be paid. Assuming the food of 70 millions to exhaust 50,000 tons per diem, this would account for 18 millions of tons in the course of the year, leaving only 9 millions of tons for all the other purposes specified. Suppose 9 millions of tons to be worth 45 millions sterling, and the expenses of agriculture, the wear and tear of life, clothing and luxuries and wastage to cost 6s. 8d. per head of the population, this would account for 23 millions sterling, leaving a margin of 22 millions for rent.

All estimates as to the agricultural outcome are, in the present defective condition of statistics in Bengal, to a large extent conjectural. The estimate above given is, however, not without corroboration. We have some figures which are more or less trustworthy as to the actual rental. The rental of the landlords in almost the whole of Bengal, as calculated from the first Road Cess statistics nearly 10 years ago, was between 13 and 14 millions sterling. The valuations were, in many instances, defective; and re-valuations, now in progress but not yet complete, indicate that the amount paid to landlords of one sort or another in Bengal does

not, at any rate, fall short of 17 millions sterling. There is good reason to believe that the actual payment, direct and indirect, by the occupants of the soil is considerably in excess of this sum. Some authorities have estimated it as high as 25 or 30 millions of sterling.

15. Effect on the Public Revenue.—The effect of this state of things on the public revenue is, of course, very marked. Sir E. Baring calculated that, whereas in a completely ryotwari province, such as Bombay, 88 per cent. of the total payment made from the land finds its way to the treasury; and in a province, where four-fifths are ryotwari, such as Madras, 69 per cent., in Bengal only one-third of the payments from the soil reaches the State. The figures given above appear to show that this calculation fell far short of the truth, and that the rent-receiving class in Bengal pays only about one-sixth of its receipts by way of revenue to the State. This result would not, of course, justify the repudiation of the terms of the Permanent Settlement; but it is sometimes urged on behalf of the land-owners of Bengal that their zealous and generous exertions have earned the gratitude of the State, and constitute a claim to exceptional treatment. To such pleas *ad miseri cordiam*, a pertinent reply is supplied by the fact that, as matters now stand, they receive five-sixths of the net outcome of the soil for doing nothing or next to nothing; while the Government receives one-sixth for all the expenses of administration, defence, maintenance of order, detection and punishment of crime, and general development. Under this last head attention should be called to the fact that more than a million of acres have been protected from famine and enormously increased in value by canal irrigation, and that the Province has now more than 1,200 miles of railway completed, besides a large number of schemes under construction. These improvements have, to a very large extent, been effected out of public resources towards which the land-owners have contributed nothing but the 3½ millions of revenue. Of late years they are liable for half of the local cesses, or, say, 18 lakhs, though cases not unfrequently come up, which show that the practice is for the tenant to pay his landlord's moiety as well as his own. Besides the East Indian and East Bengal lines, which have now been purchased by the State, 4½ millions sterling had, up to the close of 1882-83, been laid out on 570 miles of State Railways, and 6 millions had been spent on 640 miles of canals affording irrigation to 1,200,000 acres, at the expense of the general revenues of the country or the province. The net result of these canals, which, unquestionably, have largely increased the land-owner's rental, is an annual charge to the Province of 21 lakhs. There is a debit against the Railways of nearly 30 millions for guaranteed interest, incurred in the earlier years of railway enterprise, to which the Bengal lines have contributed an appreciable share. This has been paid by the general tax-payer.

16. Position of the land-owning class.—The position of the land-owning interest in Bengal, accordingly, is that the net rental available after payment of land revenue has risen from something between £300,000 and £400,000 (which it is estimated to have been at the time of the Permanent Settlement to something over 18½ millions sterling); that a large portion of this increase is due to the maintenance of peace and public order and the general prosperity of the Empire, and especially to the rise in the value of agricultural produce produced by increased facilities for trade—roads, railways, canals,—towards which improvements the zemindars must be deemed to have contributed nothing, because the yearly revenue fixed at the Permanent Settlement must be regarded as their contribution—a very inadequate one—towards the cost of the general expenses of the Empire and Province, irrespective of these undertakings. If, therefore, the State finds it necessary to exercise the power—which, under the Permanent Settlement, it is admitted by all to possess,—of interfering between landlord and tenant for the protection of the latter; and if this interference involves some restriction of the landlord's immediate profits, it may tend to allay the alarm, indignation and sympathy occasioned by the process if it is remembered that we are dealing with a class whose income has increased from causes to which it has but in a very small degree contributed, so as to be more than fifty times as large as it was when it was first settled by Government. It may also be serviceable, for the same purpose, to recall the undoubted historical fact that, whatever may have been the privileges accorded by the Mohammedan conqueror to the Bengal zemindars during the century and a half of efficient Moghul rule, those privileges at all times rested on the precarious tenure of the pleasure of an absolute sovereign, and were subject to the unquestioned right of the ruling power to demand whatever portion of the proceeds of the soil it pleased. For the last quarter of a century previous to the accession of the British, this absolute power had been used in the most violent, rapacious and oppressive manner by a series of Viceroys, with whom plunder was the chief and almost sole function of government. The land-owners were among the most conspicuous sufferers, and Warren Hastings' summary procedure fell far short of the precedents established by his predecessors. At the time of the Permanent Settlement, whatever claims to hereditary succession the zemindar may have established, his position was much more that of the official of an arbitrary Government than of a land-owner in the English sense of the word. His remuneration was the one-tenth of the revenue which it was his business to collect for the State: he was liable to fine, imprisonment, even corporal punishment. He could not enhance or eject. His duty was to "conciliate and encourage the ryots." This duty, in the disturbed years of the expiring Moghul Empire, he very imperfectly performed, as the British speedily discovered. In 1769 the President of Bengal appointed a commission for the purpose of ascertaining and fixing the amount which the zemindar received from the ryot "as his income or emolument." The Regulation of that year declared that "he had taken advantage of his position, had imposed illegal taxes, and had thus extended his claim and availed

himself of opportunities to lay his hands on the revenues of Government and the property of the ryot, where he had no foundation of right or color of pretence." This "property of the ryot," the Regulation announced, the Government intended to protect from further invasion. Nor was this view lost sight of in subsequent legislation. In 1790 Lord Cornwallis pointed out that, "while the zemindar's claim to a certain percentage of the rents of their estates had been

Minute, 3rd February 1790.
Sections 61 to 63.

admitted, the right of Government to fix the amount of those rents at its own discretion had never been denied or disputed;" and that, as zemindars had in numberless cases been dismissed for non-compliance with Government requirements, "a more nugatory or delusive species of property could hardly exist." The view taken by the author of the Permanent Settlement was reasserted 30 years later by the Board of Directors in the well-known passage of their despatch of 15th June 1819, pointing out the injurious consequences which had arisen to individual rights "from describing those, with whom the Permanent Settlement was made, as the actual proprietors of the land," and the payments by the ryots as rent instead of revenue—inaccuracies which, the Board said, had "introduced confusion into the whole system of tenures, and given a specious color to the pretensions of the zemindars in acting as if they were, in the ordinary sense of the word, proprietors, and as if the ryots had no permanent interest in the soil but what they derived from them." One practical proof of the narrow limits within which the zemindar's proprietary rights could be exercised, is that by Regulations of 1793, 1795 and 1803, he was prohibited from granting a lease for more than 10 years, and no lease was valid till it had been submitted to and approved by the revenue authorities. It is, of course, notorious that the view taken by some authorities of the zemindars' position placed their proprietary rights somewhat higher, and that particular phrases may be adduced in which their views found official expression. But the general tenor alike of the Regulations, the despatches of the Government and the Directors, and the Minutes in which Lord Cornwallis and other Indian Statesmen recorded their views is, to my mind, quite incontestably in favour of the view recorded by Lord Moira in 1819, that the Permanent Settlement was "founded on the principle that the ryot's payments were to be regarded, not as the mere payment of rent to an absolute proprietor, but an assessment payable to intermediate managers, possessing an hereditary and transferable property in the incidence of their management."

17. Tenure-holders.—Under the proprietors come a large class of intermediate landlords, or tenure holders, estimated to be more than a million in number. In the majority of instances their income is a very small one. One return gives 620,000 of them as having a rental of less than £10 per annum. This class exemplifies the strong tendency in Bengal of the possessor of any interest in land to sub-let it rather than himself engage in the risks and costs of agriculture. It constitutes a structure built up by a sort of process of sub-infeudation, the possessor of the interest in each instance letting it out to some subordinate holder, who, in turn, lets it to another; this process of sub-letting being repeated often two, three, or four, and in some instances as many as thirteen, times.

18. Ryots.—Under the 150,000 proprietors' estates in Bengal, and 1,000,000 tenure-holders, come 10 millions of holders who are, or are supposed to be, in actual occupation of the soil. The great majority of them, no doubt, are so. Of the 10 millions, 9 millions pay less than Rs. 20 per annum, and of these 9 millions, more than 6 pay less than Rs. 5—a rental which may be taken to represent a holding of about two acres. There are, however, 25,000 ryots whose rental is over Rs. 100, and 120,000 whose rental is between Rs. 50 and Rs. 100. Among them are many who sub-let. In some instances there are ryots who hold many thousands of acres, and are really considerable landlords. At any rate, the tendency which has been at work in the classes above them is also here at work; and the "sub-ryots" constitute a class already numerous and certain to increase, and more in need of protection, probably, than any other.

19. Occupancy ryots.—A large proportion of the ryots, estimated at from 70 to 90 per cent., are in enjoyment of certain privileges as to fixity of tenure and limitation of rent, which vary in some particulars in different parts of the province, but which are known generally as "occupancy rights." The exact process by which these rights came into existence is a matter of dispute. There is no dispute that many of them are the representatives of the "khudkhasht kadimi," or self-cultivating ryots, whose rights were so carefully provided for at the time of the Permanent Settlement. Another portion has acquired these rights by the rule introduced by Act X of 1859, which conferred occupancy rights in land as the result of 12 years' continuous residence as a ryot upon it. Other rights have grown up by local custom, which in some places allow of a still more rapid growth of occupancy right. There is a fierce controversy as to whether the privileges accorded at the Permanent Settlement were intended for all resident tenants, or only for a recognized class already in occupation. This will be considered hereafter; at present the fact with which we have to deal is that—partly from historical causes, partly from the natural desire to secure a tenant, partly from kindness or indifference of landlords—a proportion estimated at from seven-tenths to nine-tenths of the ryots are in the enjoyment of privileges, amounting in some instances to absolute fixity of tenure at a given rent, in others to a rental enhanceable only on certain specified grounds: in all, to a right to remain on the soil, so long as the rent is paid; that these rights, originally not transferable, have become so by local custom in many, if not most, parts of Bengal, but not in Behar; that they descend from the father to the sons in like manner as other immoveable property; and that there is a generally recognized practice of sub-letting ryoti holdings.

20. Condition of agricultural class in Behar.—When we come to examine the condition of the population with more particularity, we find a very pronounced difference between the two provinces concerned. In Behar agrarian troubles have, on several occasions, brought the condition of the agricultural classes in that province under the consideration of the Government.

In 1866-67 disturbances rose in connection with the indigo cultivation in Tirhoot and Chumparun; the Commissioner of the Division reported that oppression and extortion were frequently practised on the ryots, and though it was resolved not to resort, at the moment, to legislation, Lord Lawrence, then Governor General, recorded his conviction that a law was required which would protect the ryot both from planters and semindars. "I believe," he said—

"that it will be necessary for the Government, sooner or later, to interfere, and to pass a law which shall thoroughly protect the ryot and make him, what he is now only in name, a free man, a cultivator with the right to cultivate the land he holds, provided he pays a fair rent for it."

The subject was again brought under consideration in 1873, and in 1875 the Commissioner of the Division, writing of the prevalent scarcity, observed that there had been during 17 years five occasions, besides the present one, when a crop-failure, in some parts of the country, notwithstanding an excellent harvest in others, had resulted in the starvation of a certain part of the population. His explanation was that "not only is the cultivator left with an area barely sufficient to raise the food he requires for his family, but, in time of drought, he is short of food, as the yield is below his requirements." The same result was established by an official enquiry held in the following year. The cause of the inability of the Behar peasant to bear up against any vicissitude of season was, the Commissioners reported, that he had not, and could not by any possibility have any reserve on which to fall back.

"The whole conditions of agricultural industry then are such as to render it precarious. There is no sufficient certainty as to tenure. It is impossible for the population to fall back this year solely on accumulated reserves, whether of grain, of property, of money or credit. For the whole conditions of life are such as to preclude any sufficient accumulation of the kind. The ryots cannot fall back on any credit fund like the tenant-right in other parts of Bengal, for practically, there is no such right available to offer in pledge. The people who plough and sow, and who ought to reap, have not a reasonable assurance as to the fruits of their industry."

21. Views of Sir A. Eden and the Famine Commission as to Behar ryot.—In 1877, Sir A. Eden again brought to the notice of Government the general and widespread prevalence of oppressive, lawless, and high-handed practices, and proposed a project of legislation on the cultivators' behalf. Further discussion and enquiry established the gravity and the extent of the illegalities and oppressions which had reduced the Behar peasantry to their low condition; and the Famine Commission, with whom the condition of Behar was naturally a topic of earnest consideration, concurred with all the other authorities in holding that the great need of the province was a law which should enable the ryot to hold his land subject to fixed conditions of tenure, to maintain his occupancy rights when acquired, to be certified of the amount of his rent, and to have a trustworthy record of payments, and to be able to resist illegal distraint, illegal cesses, and illegal enhancement.

22. General Concurrence of opinion as to necessity of legislation in Behar.—The opinion expressed by Lord Lawrence in 1866 was justified by report presented in 1879 by a Committee, which had been appointed the previous year for special enquiry into the subject. They reported that it was necessary to recast the entire law, and, as this Report coincided with that of the Select Committee, who had charge of the Rent Bill for Bengal, that the time had come for general legislation, the whole subject was referred to the Rent Commission, whose labours ultimately resulted in the first draft of the Bill, now under consideration. The conclusion, therefore, upon which legislation is now proceeding, is one which, having been enunciated by the Viceroy 16 years ago, has been again and again, since then, arrived at by officials who had especial means of judging of the condition of the Province. The accounts are all to the same effect. "It is manifest," the Government of India writes of the Patna Division, "that the majority of the ryots in that large tract of country (23,000 square miles) are rack-rented." The mass of the tenantry are paying now, so the Collector of Patna reported, rents which have doubled within the last 16 years. The great evil complained of by the local officials is arbitrary enhancement at the will of the landlord. The rents of the Patna district are higher than those of any district in Bengal; those of Durbhunga and Sarun higher than any districts except Hooghly and Burdwan, and in the Gya, Shahabad and Mozufferpore districts exceptionally high. Chumparun is the only district of the Division in which the rents are not abnormal—a result to which its large amount of waste land has probably contributed.

23. Destruction of occupancy rights.—A further aggravation of the evil plight of the Behar tenantry is that rights of occupancy, which were at one time, if not universal, at any rate of very general prevalence, are being just obliterated. The following is the account given by the Government of India to the Secretary of State of this branch of the subject:—

"In Behar it is said that not one quarter per cent. of the ryots hold pottahs; and an examination of the *jamabandi* papers (rent-rolls) of Behar estates has shown that 'while 60 per

cent. of the present ryots have held some land in the village in which they reside for more than twelve years, less than one per cent. of them hold at present the same area of land which they held twelve years ago. Inasmuch as these ryots hold no *pottahs* or other documents showing which are the particular fields which they have held for more than twelve years, and which fields were subsequently acquired, it is doubtful whether any of them could, under the existing law, prove their occupancy rights even where these rights exist beyond all doubt. The Collector of Patna reports that, whenever the zemindar has felt himself strong enough to break occupancy holdings, he has done so, and that the landlords are very active in shifting the tenants from time to time to prevent the acquisition of occupancy rights. The zemindars of Shahabad, at a meeting held on 30th October 1880 at Arrah, deprecated the concession to resident ryots of rights of occupancy of lands held by them for three years. 'At present,' the zemindars said, 'land-owners prevent the growth of occupancy rights by granting leases for five years only, or by changing the lands, or by managing so that a ryot shall never hold at the same rent for twelve years. In practice, the last expedient is found sufficient, as the Court find claims to occupancy rights not proved, unless the ryots can show that he held the same land for twelve years by proving that he paid the same rent. Under the proposed law, the zemindars would not suffer ryots to remain for three years.' 'Interchange of lands,' observes the Officiating Collector of Sarun, Mr. MacDonnell, 'between ryots in a zemindari occasionally occurs, but is the rare exception, not the rule. Manipulation by the *patwaris* of the village *jambandis* to prevent identification of the plot held this year with the same plot held five years ago, is of usual occurrence to prevent proof of continuous holding, and to furnish evidence of the contrary, as well as of a charge in the rates.' The Maharaja of Darbhanga informed Mr. Reynolds that his present practice was to give leases for ten years, and if the raiyat showed himself a good tenant, to renew his lease, and allow him to acquire a right of occupancy, but that if the term were reduced to three years, he would be obliged to eject all his tenants at the end of two years, so as to bar the acquisition of the right."

24. Effect of enhancements on the tenantry.—As to the results of these enhancements and other oppressive proceedings on the condition of the people, there is, unhappily, no room for doubt. The evidence laid before the Commission established a decree of general destitution for which it would be difficult to find any parallel in India; certainly not in any locality equally favoured by nature. "The ryots of this Province," wrote Major Hidayat Khan, an important land-owner in Behar, in 1877, "though they labour hard, are yet in a state of almost utter destitution, and that, owing to the heavy assessments laid upon them." Good evidence was given of the exaction of numerous illegal cesses by the landlords, of the enhancement of rents not legally liable to enhancement, of illegal ejectments, and of duress and other illegal methods of enforcing payment of rent. Illegal distraint was so universal that its illegality had begun to be lost sight of. The conclusion, at which the Famine Commission, on the evidence before it, arrived was that the Behar ryot's chronic state was one of abject poverty, close bordering on absolute destitution; that he was, as a rule, rack-rented; that his occupancy rights were being fast destroyed; that he was the victim of much illegality and oppression; and that the condition of the rent law was a very grave hindrance to agricultural prosperity. Exactly to the same effect was Mr. Reynolds' report. "The Behar ryot," he said, "is at once industrious and unthrifty; for he knows that it is his destiny to labour, and he feels that it would be useless for him to attempt to save. Accustomed to a low standard of living, he has no thought of improving his condition, because, hitherto, the circumstances of his lot have made permanent improvement impossible to him. His best hope has been that the zemindar and the mahajan would leave him a bare sufficiency to support life till his next harvest time comes round."

25. Necessity for protective measures.—We have of late had a succession of prosperous years, and the ryot may have shared in the general prosperity. The judicious arrangements made by Sir A. Eden with the planters and the praiseworthy endeavours of the planters themselves have, I believe, put a stop to many objectionable and oppressive practices. But this was the condition of the province when legislation was taken in hand, and it would be too much to hope that the seven intervening years have worked so substantial a change in the economic condition of the province as to render legislation unnecessary. We must still, I fear, regard the Behar ryot as among those classes whom the Government is, in the language of the Permanent Settlement, especially bound to protect as being the most helpless and most defenceless.

26. Tenantry in East Bengal.—On the other side of the Province we are confronted by a very different state of things. There a robust and determined class of tenants, mostly Mohammedans, have taken full advantage of every opportunity for bettering their position, and, in many cases, resisting the legitimate claims of the landlords. The development of the jute industry has diffused wealth; large tracts of waste land have been acquired on favourable terms, in numerous instances the ryots have purchased "perpetual leases," i.e., the proprietorship of the land subject to a fixed quit-rent. Attempts at exaction have been answered by acts of violence, and the public peace has been, on several occasions, infringed by agrarian disturbance. In 1873 the oppressive manner in which the purchasers of an old zemindari exercised their rights as landlords gave rise to an outbreak, which almost assumed the form of an agrarian league "to hold the rent." The famine of 1874 made it necessary to postpone any systematic

attempt at dealing with the case; but from that time to this the Government has almost continuously had the unsatisfactory relations of the landlord and tenant in the Eastern districts under consideration, the general complaint of the landlords being the indefiniteness in which the law has left, at once, their rights and the procedure for enforcing them, and the practical impossibility of enforcing payments, the legality and propriety of which not even the recalcitrant tenant pretended to dispute. At present the state of things in many parts of the country is scarcely more than a short of truce, pending the settlement of the dispute by legislation. The disputes in Mymensingh may be regarded as a type of the sort of antagonism which generally prevails, and which might, at any moment, lead to a serious breach of the public tranquillity.

27. Hostile relations of Landlord and Tenant in Mymensingh. The papers recently published* throw a vivid light on the friction produced by the hostile relations of zemindar and ryot in that district. The present is the third occasion the Government observes, in answer to a memorial of landowners praying for special coercive measures, "that enhancements of rents have driven the ryots into open hostility against their landlords :—"

On two previous occasions, in 1868 and 1875, official action was brought to bear upon the ryots, who were persuaded under such influence to agree to their zemindars' terms. "Since then," says the Commissioner, "the zemindars have been increasing their demands for *kabuliyats* at enhanced rates, and there has been more or less friction. This culminated in 1882, when the ryots again, for the third time, combined together and resisted the zemindars. This time the combination has assumed a more serious aspect than on the other occasions, probably because the ryots are becoming more and more aware of their rights, and are determined not to be persuaded to anything against their interests by the local officials. They are perhaps not so much to blame, for I fear it must be recorded that the Maimansingh pargana zemindars, relying on the support formerly given to them by the officials, have been very exacting in their demands, and though I am not prepared to say that the *kabuliyats* got out of the ryots are wholly illegal and unjust, yet it must be allowed that very hard bargains have been driven with the ryots." This is the opinion of a Commissioner who has had a very long experience of this part of Bengal, and it is more than borne out by the following remarks of the Collector of the district :—

"A review of the history of the policy of the zemindars towards their ryots in the Maimansingh pargana shows that, so far as this portion of the Lower Provinces is concerned, there might almost as well have existed no rent-law at all since 1859, for the provisions of that and subsequent Acts passed by the Legislature for the regulation of the relations between landlord and tenant seem to have been entirely ignored. Rents have been capriciously enhanced from time to time, and the objectionable system of farming out portions of the estate to the highest bidder seems to have been the rule. When the ryots, during so many years, quietly submitted to such a state of things, it is an obvious deduction that this could only have occurred among a peasantry incredibly and entirely ignorant that they had any rights at all, or that the rent demandable from them by their landlord could be limited by anything but his will. This probably is to be ascribed to the remoteness of the district and its consequent backwardness. The zemindars, while obliged to admit that this has in fact been the result of their management of their estates, plead that, it having been always the custom of the pargana to revise the rent-roll at short intervals, they were perfectly justified, notwithstanding the provisions of the Rent Acts, in preserving the *status quo ante* 1859, and trying to prevent the accrual of rights of occupancy. They also state that the ryots, for their own interest and quite voluntarily, used frequently to change the lands they held by surrendering some and cultivating others. Where a ryot believed that he was liable to summary ejectment after a short term in the event of his not consenting to the term of a resettlement, it became of course of little moment to him what land he held or what land he surrendered, his great object being to hold that the best lands he could at the least rates. Even at present, so far as I have been able to ascertain, there exists a most complete and incredible ignorance among these ryots of the provisions of the rent-law—a state exposing them, on the one hand, to being deprived of their legal rights without knowing it, and, on the other hand, being duped by designing persons into absurd and impossible ideas as regards what the Government may do for them by the new Bill."

It would be difficult, it appears to me, to conceive a state of things more imperatively calling for legislation. The landlords naturally demand that the law shall not remain a dead-letter as regards the assertion of their claims, and that it shall be modified, if necessary, so as to render the collection of rent more cheap, easy and expeditious than at present. This demand the Government has met by the various Bills which have been for several years past under discussion, and the various official investigations to which the discussion of those Bills have given rise. The result has been in Bengal, as in Behar, that a general revision of the law has been found to be essential.

28. Condition of both parts of the Province necessitates interference.—Neither of the two conditions described above can be regarded as sufficiently tolerable to justify the Government in continued acquiescence. The tenant in East Bengal cannot be allowed to go on defying the law, defending himself against his landlord, whether the claim be legal or illegal, by such rude justice as he chooses to apply. The British Government cannot allow two great classes to stand confronted, the one daring the other to enforce rights, which the courts have ascertained. The landlord is entitled to have his decree for rent executed; but

the Government, which executes it, is surely bound to see that that decree is not unjust or oppressive. On the other hand, the state of things in Behar and portions of Bengal is such as to give rise to the gravest anxiety for the future. Society there seems to have reached, or be fast reaching, the stage described by Mr. Mill, where he says, speaking of Ireland and India, "As the land is a fixed quantity, while population has an unlimited power of increase, unless something checks that increase, the competition for land soon forces up the rent to the highest point consistent with keeping the population alive. The effects, therefore, of a cottier system depend on the extent to which the capacity of the population to increase is controlled either by custom, individual prudence, or by starvation and disease." We have seen that custom, far from checking the increase, in India tends to foster it; that religion enjoins it; that the circumstances of the Behar peasant render prudence impossible. There remains only the other stern remedy for the redundant population competing unrestrictedly for the soil—disease and starvation; and in Behar we have, in my opinion, that terrible remedy already in sight. The inquiries which, for some years, were conducted by the Famine Commission left this conviction, with painful distinctness, on the minds of other members, I know, besides myself; and when people talk, *cœur léger*, about the prosperity and progress of India, the rights of landlords, the hardship of any interference with those rights, and other like topics, the answer seems to me to ask what is to be the future of this teeming, helpless population, and how can Government, with the facts before it, repudiate the obligation, so solemnly enacted at the Permanent Settlement, and so often admitted since, of interfering whenever necessary, on behalf of the agricultural tenant.

29. Necessity for due consideration of interests of each class.—Any measure, accordingly, which attempts to regulate the subject, must deal with the interests of (1) the 110,000 registered owners; (2) the 1,000,000 tenure-holders; (3) the occupancy ryot, himself often a landlord; (4) the non-occupancy ryot; (5) the ryot's tenant or sub-ryot. As the rights of each of these classes are in almost every instance, in some respect or other, indistinct, vague and undetermined; as local custom has varied them in a hundred different particulars; and as the vast majority of the persons concerned are unacquainted with writing, and attach more importance to tradition and local sentiment than to any document, however formal in its terms or solemnly executed, it is no matter of surprise that those who entered upon the present controversy, with decided views and strong pre-dispositions and prejudices, have found plenty of material for strengthening their opinions as the discussion proceeded, and that there should have been on either side much warm feeling and exaggerated, inaccurate and violent language. The task for the legislator is to consider all these conflicting views with absolute dispassionateness, and to devise the plan by which, with least shock to society, least disruption of existing relations, least loss or pain to any class, the general interests of the community may be most effectually promoted.

30. Proprietary rights must be reconciled with public weal.—On the one hand, it must be remembered, as to the proprietors and tenure-holders, that "the sacredness of property" is a State axiom of the deepest import; that any interference with existing rights of property by the State is a most serious and dangerous order of remedy, never to be resorted to without the gravest cause or beyond the limit at which it becomes unnecessary. On the other hand, it is necessary to insist, as a fundamental axiom of political economy, and of our policy as the ruling power, on the right and duty of the State to interfere with property whenever the well-being of any class in the community demands interference. It is not too much, I suppose, to say that in all the chief European communities—notably Russia, France, Austria, Germany—it has been found necessary to interfere, to a most serious extent, with rights of the land-owning classes, which, though resting on unquestionably good legal and historical basis, had become incompatible with the modern conditions of society. In Ireland the same remedy has been found necessary. In England the diversion of a great portion of the population to manufacture, and the relief afforded by the development of other industries than agriculture, has rendered the relations of the owner and occupier of the soil a matter of less national importance than elsewhere; but even in England, Parliament has considered it expedient to interfere in some particulars with the free right of contract between the owner of land and its occupant. All the great political economists have justified such interference.

31. Statutory right and duty of State to interfere.—In India, moreover, there is this special circumstance, that the right and duty of the State to interfere, its determination to interfere whenever expedient, and the obligation of the land-owners to acquiesce in such interference without attempting to make it a ground for abatement of the payments due by them to the State, are doctrines which have been solemnly and repeatedly enacted as part of the Statute law of the country, and which form part of the title-deeds of every land-owner in India. The Permanent Settlement Regulation was framed on instructions from the Court of Directors to this effect:—

"In order to leave no room for our intentions being at any time misunderstood, we direct you to be accurate in the terms in which our determination is announced * * * * * You will, in a particular manner, be cautious so to express yourselves as to leave no ambiguity as to our right to interfere, from time to time, as it may be necessary, for the protection of the ryots and subordinate landlords, it being our intention, in the whole of this measure, effectually to limit our own demands, but not to depart from our inherent right, as sovereigns, of being the guardians and protectors of every class of persons living under our Government."

These instructions were carried out by the Government in Article 8 of Regulation I of 1793, which is as follows:—

"To prevent any misconstruction of the foregoing articles" (fixing the Government revenue for ever) "the Governor General in Council thinks it necessary to make the following declarations to the zemindars, independent talukdars, and other actual proprietors of land:—*First*, it being the duty of the ruling power to protect all classes of people, and more particularly those who, from their situation, are most helpless, the Governor General in Council will, whenever he may deem it proper, enact such regulations as he may think necessary for the protection and welfare of the dependent talukdars, ryots, and other cultivators of the soil; and no zemindar, independent talukdar, or other actual proprietor of land shall be entitled on this account to make any objection to the discharge of the fixed assessment which they have respectively agreed to pay."

To the like effect was rule 9 in the kabuliya, by which section 67 of Regulation VIII of 1793 declared that proprietors should be bound, *vis.*, that "implicit obedience should be shown to all regulations which have been, or may be, prescribed by Government concerning the rents of the ryots, and the collections from under-tenants and agents of every description, as well as from all other persons whatever."

It is difficult to understand how, with these explicit and emphatic expressions before them, there should be some advocates of the zemindars' interests who appeal to the Permanent Settlement as the foundation of the right on the part of the landlords to hold their estates free from legislative interference, and "to make what they can" out of the non-occupancy tenants, and who denounce any proposed restriction of this right as a wholly unjustifiable interference with the rights of private property and even a breach of faith.

32. Different theories of the State's right to interfere.—The difficulty is met in different ways. Some writers get over it by denying the constitutional right of Government to interfere at all with the owners of the soil in the matter of rent. "I unhesitatingly assert," writes the author of a pamphlet entitled, by way, I suppose, of announcing its impartiality, calmness and freedom from class-feeling, *The Ilbert Bill No. II*, "that there never was a time when the zemindar could not make what terms he pleased with his ryots, and that the pergunnah rates, or the established rates of which we hear so much, were the rates which the zemindar himself established." The learned author had no doubt satisfied himself as to the sufficiency of the grounds on which this unhesitating assertion is based; but I find it irreconcilable with the language alike of Lord Cornwallis, the Board of Directors and contemporaneous legislation,—with Lord Cornwallis' statement that, while the zemindar's "claim to a percentage upon the rents of their estates had been admitted, the right of the Government to fix the amount of those rents at its own discretion had never been denied or disputed," or with the language in which the Board gave its sanction to Lord Cornwallis' arrangements: "We expressly reserve the right," they wrote, "which belongs to us as sovereigns of interposing our authority in making from time to time all such regulations as may be necessary to prevent ryots being improperly disturbed in their possessions, or loaded with unwarrantable exactions . . . Our interference, where it is necessary, seems also to be clearly consistent with the practice of the Moghul Government under which it appeared to be a general maxim that the immediate cultivator of the soil paying his rent should not be dispossessed of the land he occupied. This necessarily supposes that there were some measures and limits by which the rent could be defined, and that it was not left to the arbitrary determination of the zemindars. In point of fact the original amount seems to have been annually ascertained and fixed by the Sovereign."

33. A pergunnah rate was in some cases actually fixed.—The most conclusive refutation, however, of the assertion is afforded by a despatch of the Court of Directors to the Government of India, June 15th, 1818, in which the causes of the omission of the authorities to interfere for the purpose of enforcing a pergunnah rate were discussed. "We conclude," they say, "that the supposed difficulty of the operation was the cause of this non-interference. We find, however, that antecedently to the Permanent Settlement, the power was successfully exercised in several parts of the territory under your Government, and that the advantages of this policy are still felt in those districts, although the general system of your administration has been unfavourable to the preservation and improvement of the advantages thus obtained. We particularly refer to the 24 Pergunnahs, and to part of Dinagapore, when it was under the management of the late Mr. Hatch. In the vicinity of Calcutta also the ryots, as Mr. Colebrook understood, have been supported by the decision of the Adalat in their pretensions to hold their lands upon the rents payable by them, or those whose representatives they are according to the best (last?) general measurement which was undertaken by the authority of Government before the Permanent Settlement, and of which the record is understood to be preserved in the office of the Collector."

The Directors go on to quote Mr. Colebrook's statement that "the Regulations of Benares have maintained the tables of rates of Fasal 1817, and that the canoongee office yet exists in that province for its preservation." Recurring to Dinagapore, the Directors mention that Mr. Hatch had ascertained, by local investigation, the varieties of rate and pottah, the proportion borne by the illegal cesses to the recorded rental, the quality of various classes of soil, the average gross produce, and "5thly, that he determined, reference being had to the present and former rates of rent, what proportion of the average produce should, in each class, be retained by the

ryot and what proportion of a fixed money valuation should be received by the zemindar." The pergunnah rate thus determined by Mr. Hatch in 1790 is reported by an officer well acquainted with the district to be still held in "universal respect." The same thing is the case, I am informed, in Jessore.

It is needless to add that the whole series of Regulations, which constitute the Permanent Settlement, proceed on the basis that the Government had the right to restrict the rents to a certain specified rate, and was exercising that right in the most explicit manner.

34. Compensation to landowners for restrictive legislation.—Another view put forward by the same writer is that, though the Regulation does empower the Government to interfere, whenever it thinks necessary, for the protection of the ryots and other cultivators of the soil, such interference must be accompanied by adequate compensation to those whose interests it may curtail. To this contention there are several answers. In the first place, it is in direct contravention of the Regulation, which expressly provides that "no zemindar, independent talookdar or other actual proprietor of land shall be entitled on this account (i.e., on account of interference by the State for the protection of the ryot) to make any objection to the discharge of the fixed assessment which they have respectively agreed to pay." In the next place, such compensation would be merely, in another form, to lessen the contribution of the land-owners of Bengal to the general revenues, a contribution at present extremely disproportionate to that which every other class pays for the public defence, administration and development of the country. In the third place, any scheme of compensation, short of completely buying out the whole of the landlords' interest in the soil, would be impracticable; and lastly, those who advocate the present reforms do not admit that they are in the long run, and, even in many instances, at the present moment, to the detriment of the landlord. It is for the real interest of the landowner, just as much as of the Government, to have a prosperous, contented and substantial tenantry. Many instances of excellent landlords show the extent to which this fact is realized in Bengal. The object of the present measure is to generalize, as far as possible, the mutual advantages to landlord and tenant of such a state of things, and to guard against the departures from it which negligence or greed on the one hand and lawless impatience of a just claim on the other, are likely to produce. Such a reform does not call for or admit of compensation to any particular class.

35. Did the protection of the Permanent Settlement extend to non-occupancy ryot?—Another, and more plausible, contention is that, whatever be the position of the occupancy ryot, the privileges and protection provided by the Regulation did not extend to the non-occupancy ryots. With these, at any rate, it is urged, the landlords were left free to deal "in whatever manner they thought proper." Arguments have been adduced with great acumen and research on either side of this question. I do not propose to recapitulate those arguments. What was the exact position of the pykast ryot—whether he was more favoured or less favoured than the occupancy ryot—how far any distinct line between pykast and khudkhas ryots was, in practice, drawn, the general object being to induce the non-resident ryot to settle, and the non-resident ryot having always at hand the easy remedy of migration to the next estate—are points, as every one who has followed the controversy knows, on which those who have studied the subject with most care are unable to agree; they must be left, I suppose, as unascertainable. There is evidence, however, that the non-resident ryot could not be forced, any more than the occupancy ryot, to pay more than the pergunnah rate, and that he was exempt from arbitrary eviction; and it has been contended, not without forcible grounds, that the only practical difference between the two classes was that the auction-purchaser of the estate was able to cancel the lease in the one case and not in the other. The doubt existed in 1819, when we find the Court of Directors writing to the Government that they were not satisfied as to the nature of the interest possessed by the landlords in the waste lands of permanently-settled districts, and adding, with reference to the view expressed by the Government, that "it is the opinion of many considerable authorities that in leases of waste, as well as of other lands, the pergunnah rates form a standard of payment not to be exceeded." The doubt which existed in 1819 is little likely to be cleared up after the lapse of more than half a century; but we shall see immediately what was the view, taken by the Legislature in 1859, of the law of the country as to each class of ryot. The Government of India, with a

Despatch of 21st March 1882.
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view to keep clear of debateable ground, bases its proposed legislation, not on the historical question as to the precise legal limits of the zemindars' powers, but on the necessity of finding "a thorough remedy for a practical evil. We aim at a determination of the case which shall be broadly just to interests which must at some point conflict." The right and duty of Government to apply such a remedy in both classes of ryots cannot reasonably be contested. Its denial would involve the monstrous assumption that the Government, while making the most solemn announcements of its care for every class of tenant, and its resolution to interfere for their protection whenever necessary, and placing the assurance of the ryot's position on the same legal basis as that of the zemindars, arbitrarily excluded from the scope of this beneficent arrangement all the tenantry not then in the enjoyment of occupancy rights, and all the future tenantry of the portion (believed to be between one-third and two-thirds) of the province which was at that time unreclaimed. The mere statement of such a result seems to demonstrate the unsoundness of the assumption which involves it.

36. Previous legislation.—To complete the sketch of the facts of the case, it is necessary to refer to the legislation which has taken place upon it. Of these measures, it is necessary

only to consider Act X of 1859. I have shown, in paragraph 3, what was Lord Canning's view of that Act, *viz.*, that it was an earnest attempt to improve the position of the Bengal ryot and to give him a prospect of freedom and independence by clearly defining his rights, and placing restrictions on the power of the zemindars, which ought, long ago, to have been provided. Its original object was to amend the law as to one particular—the recovery of rent; but it was thought expedient, as the mover of the Bill explained, “to re-enact in a distinct and clear form the provisions of the existing law connected with land rents; and sections 3, 4, and 5, accordingly, set forth *what had been the law since the time of the Permanent Settlement.*” Section 3 provided that hereditary ryots at fixed rates were entitled to pottahs at those rates; “*all other ryots and cultivators*” were entitled to pottahs at the rates established in the *pergunnah* for similar lands, or, if no rent rate could be discovered, at the customary rates for similar lands in the vicinity. Section 4 provided that every resident ryot and cultivator has a right of occupancy, except in the case (1) of sir lands leased for a term, and (2) of sub-ryots. Section 5 provided that *resident ryots cultivating lands not previously in their possession, without a pottah, should not acquire a right of occupancy till they had paid rent for three years.* This is what the mover of the Bill considered to be a statement of the law in force since the time of the Permanent Settlement. What can we infer from it but that the “resident ryot,” as opposed

to the ryot with a right of occupancy, had certain definite rights, and that the right of occupancy was one to which a short residence, *viz.*, of three years, gave rise. The causes which gave rise to modifications in the Bill as passed are well known. The Committee reported that the *pergunnah* rates, at which ryots were entitled to hold, were admitted to mean “customary and fair rents; and, with regard to the ryot with a right of occupancy, that it had been pointed out that “residence is not always a condition of occupancy,” and that, as 12 years had in 1856 been prescribed in the North-Western Provinces as giving rise to a right of occupancy, they had, following this precedent, prescribed the same period in the Act.

37. Unexpected results of Act X of 1859.—The consequences of this rule were little foreseen by its framers. The admitted law was that all resident ryots had rights of occupancy; but it was found that some non-resident ryots had such rights, and it was proposed to meet these cases by a rule borrowed from the North-Western Provinces that an ousted tenant could recover possession by showing 12 years' occupation. It is matter of history how this provision came to be understood, not as supplementary rule, but as an exclusive definition—how, consequently, many undoubtedly resident ryots were ousted on account of their inability to prove 12 years' continuous occupation—and how, in the language of the Lieutenant-Governor, speaking of the Act a few years subsequently, its results had been “wholesale enhancement of rents and ejection of ryots, who had a customary claim to occupancy, and who, under the law as it previously stood, would probably never have been molested.” This view of the unexpected effects of Act X of 1859 has been repeatedly put forward; it was prominently enforced by the Rent Commission; it was adopted by the Government in its despatch in March 1882; and I am not aware that any one has ever contested its accuracy. But if it be accurate, what becomes of the protests, lamentations and objurgations showered so plentifully on the proposal of Government to amend a law which, owing to technical defects, has miscarried in so signal and fundamental a manner, and which produces results the very opposite of those which its authors had in view? The Bill started with the view that all resident ryots had rights of occupancy, that all other ryots were entitled to sit at the settled *pergunnah* rates, and that rights of occupancy could be acquired by those who had them not by three years' residence. The effect of the Act, as interpreted in our Courts, has been that a ryot, who, and his ancestors for 100 years before him, have resided in the village, may find himself ejected from his holding because he may have been shifted from one plot to another, or may, from some other cause, be unable to prove 12 years' continuous occupation. How can any Government, with any pretensions to a consistent policy, refuse to remedy such a legislative miscarriage?

38. Provisions of the Bill.—Such, in general terms, is the problem which the present Bill is intended to solve; such are the different interests which it has to consider and adjust; and such the policy by which legislation must be guided. We will now see what solution in each case is proposed.

The Bill recognises and maintains the existing divisions of those interested in the soil into proprietors, tenure-holders, occupancy raiyats (at fixed rents and at enhanceable rents), non-occupancy raiyats, and sub-raiyats. In order to understand the effect of the proposed legislation, it is necessary to examine with minuteness its provisions as to each class, and to see in what respects they differ from the law as it was laid down in 1859 and has been for the last 25 years, and from that which was in force previous to that enactment.

39. Tenure-holders.—And first as to the tenure-holders, in which term is included every

S. 5. (5.)

interest between the proprietor and the raiyat, and, presumably, the tenant of every holding over 100 bigahs (or 33 acres) who sub-lets any portion of it. The Bill provides that, if a tenure-holder has held, otherwise than as a tenant-at-will or for a term of years, at a rent which has not been changed for 20 years immediately preceding the suit, he is presumed to have held from the Permanent Settlement; and if he has held from the Permanent Settlement, his rent can be enhanced only on proof, either (1) that the

S. 6 and S. 6A.

landlord is entitled to enhance by the conditions of the tenure or local custom; or (2) that the tenant has, by receiving a reduction of rent (other than on account of diluvion or the acquisition of the land for public purposes), rendered himself liable to enhancement, and that the tenant is capable of affording it. His rent may also be increased or diminished on the ground of an increase or diminution of the area for which rent has been previously paid. When a tenureholder's rent is enhanceable, the enhance-

S. 66.

S. 7.

ment will be governed, in the first instance, by any contract between the parties; in the absence of contract, the enhancement may be to the limit of the customary rate payable by similar tenureholders in the vicinity; or, where there is no such customary rate, to such limit as the Court thinks "fair and equitable;" but in deciding what is "fair and equitable" the Court is to leave the tenure-holder with not less than 10 per cent. of the net collections, and is to take into account the circumstances under which the tenure was created, the improvements effected by the tenureholder or his predecessors; and the cost and risk of collection. The enhanced rent must not be more than double the previous rent, and cannot be re-enhanced for 10 years. The enhancement may, if the Court

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S. 10.

S. 9.

directs, be extended over a period of five years.

A permanent tenure is transferable and may be devised as other immoveable property,

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S. 12.

S. 170.

except that the holding cannot be broken up without the consent of the landlord. A tenureholder can be ejected only in execution of decree grounded on breach of a condition, consistent with the provisions of the Act, which, by the terms of the contract, renders him liable to ejection; and no such suit can be entertained unless the landlord has requested the tenant, if the breach is remediable, to remedy it; if it cannot be remedied, to pay reasonable compensation. The Court, in decreeing ejection, shall fix a time within which the breach may be remedied or a reasonable compensation be paid, in which case no ejection will take place. Only on default of the tenureholder to comply with this order ejection will follow.

40. Effect of sale for arrears on subordinate holdings: Projected interests.—When a transferable tenure is sold in execution of a decree for arrears of rent, the purchaser will take,

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subject to certain interests which are termed "protected," viz., (a) an under-tenure which has existed since the Permanent Settlement; (b) an undertenure recognized in current settlement proceedings as a tenure at rent fixed for the term of the settlement; (c) a lease of land on which buildings have been erected, or gardens, orchards, &c., made; (d) a right of occupancy; (e) a right conferred on an occupancy tenant to hold at a fair rent; (f) any right or interest which the landlord, at whose instance the holding is sold, has expressly, in writing, authorised the tenant to create.

41. "Registered and notified incumbrances."—As to all other subordinate interests in, or incumbrances upon, the tenure sold for arrears of rent, they will, if registered and notified to the landlord three months before the accrual of the arrear, be termed "registered and notified incumbrances;" and the tenure will, in the first instance, be sold subject to them; and only if the sum bid is insufficient to discharge the arrear will they be sold with power to the purchaser to annul. The purchaser can in such case, by application to the Collector within a year, annul.

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42. Proposed system of registration.—There are various other provisions in the Bill affecting tenure-holders along with other classes of tenants which need not at present be considered. It is important, however, to notice that the Government anticipates an improvement in the law, VII of 1876, as to registration of title. By this no tenureholder would be able to sue for rent unless both his own title and his landlord's is registered. If this were the law, and a complete system of registration were effected under it, it would be possible to provide for the recovery of rent by a landlord from a tenureholder by summary process, similar to that now in force in the case of the tenures known as "putni talooks." This would no doubt prove of great advantage to the landlords, and, in fact, is one of the substantial advantages which the Bill proposes to confer upon them. On the other hand there can be little doubt that a complete system of registration would be of first rate importance in the interests of the raiyats.

43. Twenty years' presumption.—The first point which has to be discussed in connection with the status of the tenureholder, as thus defined, is whether the 20 years' presumption should still be retained as raising an inference that the rent has not been altered over the Permanent Settlement, and consequently is exempt from enhancement except in the specified cases.

This rule was enacted in 1859, and has been in force ever since. Strong reasons, and those not of a mere speculative order, must be shown for any change. The reasons urged for its repeal are—(1) that it is an infringement of the rights of the landlord under the Permanent Settlement; and (2) that it works hardship to auction-purchasers at sales for arrears of revenue.

The first of these grounds can hardly be seriously put forward in favour of the repeal of an enactment passed 25 years ago, which, having been in use ever since, must be thoroughly familiar to all parties concerned, and as to the practical advantages of which the mass of official opinion appears to be on the whole agreed.

As to the auction-purchasers, as, out of the 147,942 estates in Bengal with a revenue of 8½ crores, only 647, with an average revenue of 1½ lakhs, are annually sold for arrears, the grievance cannot, at any rate, be one of very serious extent.

44. Proposal of Bengal Government.—The Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, however, is prepared to meet the landlords' wishes by restricting the presumption, for the future, to cases in which it is shown that there has been no change in the rent from 20 years previous to the passing of the Bill. I confess that, though I am glad of any reasonable concession to the landlords, I do not see any adequate ground for this change in the law as it has now stood for 25 years. The presumption may have worked hardly at first; but it seems difficult to conceive how it should do so now. If a landlord chooses, in defiance of the directions of the Legislature, to keep his accounts in such a way as to be unable to show a change, if change there has been in the course of twenty years preceding the suit, he ought, I think to meet the presumption which the law for the last quarter of a century attached to that state of things; and, surely, if there has, as a fact, been no change for 20 years, it is but reasonable, regard being had to the respective resources of the two parties, that the burthen should be thrown on the landlord of showing that a rent has at some prior date been altered. The balance of local official opinion appears to be decidedly against any change. Alterations in presumptions are always objectionable, and the necessity for alteration grows less every year of their continuance. No such necessity, it appears to me, exists in the present instance.

45. Enhancement.—Next comes the question of the restrictions placed by the Bill on enhancement of the tenureholder's rent. As to the interval of time which must intervene between one enhancement and another, it is suggested that the period of exemption from re-enhancement should be 15 years, so as to correspond to that prescribed in the case of an occupancy ryot. This very reasonable proposal is supported by the Lieutenant-Governor, and is hardly likely to encounter serious opposition.

As to the limit in amount, the Bengal Government recommends a section providing that the proposed limit of 100 per cent. on the existing rental shall not apply in cases in which land has been let at a low rate for purposes of reclamation. At present contracts for the reclamation of waste land are, by section 212, exempted from the Act. This section it is suggested, should be amended so as to apply specifically to the present case.

46. The Ryot.—Coming, next, to the much larger class of ryots, and to the much more difficult and more disputable questions involved in the consideration of their interests, we are met at the outset by the additional difficulty that, while the landlord's interest is united in opposing any proposal which tends to enlarge the amount or the area of protection afforded to the occupancy ryot, those who are most anxious to provide for the ryot's protection are not in accordance as to the limits to which the enlargement should go, or the conditions under which the privilege should accrue. The existing law, enacted in 1859, makes the acquisition of occupancy rights depend on the continuous occupation of the land, as a ryot, for 12 years.

47. Proposals of Rent Commission and Sir A. Eden.—The Rent Commission proposed to retain this rule, but to guard against its failure in future, as it has failed in the past, by imposing a penalty on eviction. Sir A. Eden proposed to describe a ryot, who resided for three years in a village or group of villages, as having "a fixed habitation" therein, and to give rights of occupancy over any land held by a ryot in, or within two miles of, a village in which he had "a fixed habitation."

48. Proposal of Government of India and Secretary of State.—The Government of India* recommended a more extensive change. They proposed to take a classification of lands as the basis of a reorganisation of occupancy right, and to declare that, except in certain specified cases, the right should attach to the occupancy by a ryot of "ryotee" lands. This proposal was disapproved by the Secretary of State,† *first*, as annulling the familiar distinction between resident and non-resident ryots; *secondly*, as departing from a rule recognised ever since 1859; and, *thirdly*, because the failure of the law had, in the opinion of the Secretary of State, arisen from an error, not in the principle of the Act, but in the provisions for its application. This error, it was observed, enabled a landlord to defeat the accrual of rights to the ryot, notwithstanding continuous residence, either by shutting him from one field to another, or by inducing him to enter into a contract barring the right, or by destroying evidence of continuous possession. The Secretary of State accordingly recommended that the "resident" ryot should be one who had occupied land "in the village or estate" for 12 years, and that such ryots should have occupancy rights in the land they occupy and pay rent for.

49. Reply of Government of India.—The Government of India, in reply, pointed out various objections to the Secretary of State's proposal, taking, as the basis of their argument, the distinction between permanent and temporary occupation, and the fact that by the historical law of India, wherever land was permanently cultivated, the tenant held at customary rates, and should not be ejected so long as those rates were paid. They pointed out that the rule proposed by the Secretary of State must tend to a continual increase in the number of unprotected ryots, as occupancy holdings gradually fell in; that it involved a continuance of the evil conflict be-

* 21st March, 1881.

† 17th August, 1882.

17th October, 1882.

tween landlord and tenant which it was one object of the Bill to end; that it left the unprotected ryot worse off than before, because it would make it necessary for the landlord, in order to prevent the accrual of occupancy rights, to turn him, not only out of his lands, but out of the village or estate; that its result must necessarily be to lead landlords not to allow resident ryots to acquire fresh lands, but to prefer outsiders, whose position they would be free to dictate at pleasure, and to seize every opportunity of getting rid of the occupancy tenant altogether, and thus to perpetuate antagonism and litigation.

50. Adoption by Government of India of Secretary of State's proposal for definition of "ryot."—The Secretary of State then left the matter to the Government of India, to decide at its own discretion.

11th January, 1880.

The Government of India declined to legislate on a basis, which had not the concurrence of the Secretary of State, and determined to act on the lines indicated by the Secretary of State. The result has been the definition of the occupancy ryot's status as given in the Bill. It proceeds on the basis of the view taken by the Secretary of State, that Act X of 1859 had failed, not from defect of principle (the principle being that the permanent cultivator should have occupancy rights), but because it was so worded as to make the accrual of the right depend, not on permanence of cultivation, but on the continuous occupation of the particular plot over which the right was claimed. This defect the Secretary of State proposed to remedy by making residence in the village or estate the condition of acquiring the status of a "settled ryot," and by giving the settled ryot occupancy rights. This the Bill does, *totidem verbis*, and so far, if the present controversy is ever to close, we must, I presume, regard the matter as concluded. But the Bill goes on to add an important presumption, *viz.*, that every ryot holding land shall be presumed, as between him and the landlord under whom he holds, to have held the land, or part of it, for 12 years, and thus to have become a "settled ryot" in the village or estate in which the land is situate. To this presumption, as well as to extension of the ryot's rights to the whole of the estate in which he settled, strenuous objection is taken.

51. Objections taken to the definition.—As to the latter of these objections, it is pointed out by the Government of Bengal that there is an inconsistency in allowing the ryot rights in his village and not in the whole estate, because, if the ryot is to have occupancy rights in his own village, he will, perforce, in many cases, have them in different estates, inasmuch as portions of one village often lie in several estates. It is further urged that the extension of the right to the "estate" is very little likely to occasion hardship to the landlord, inasmuch as the greater majority of the ryots are in the humblest circumstances, "barely able to keep body and soul together," and not at all in a position to extend their holdings; that the tenant can acquire new land only by the consent of the landlord, and that if he does acquire it, it is desirable on public grounds that his position should be assured as to the new acquisition no less than as to the rest of his holding.

52. Meaning of "The Estate."—There is considerable conflict of opinion as to what the "estate" is to be, in which the settled ryot is to have occupancy rights, whether the estate as it stood in 1853, all subsequent partitions being disregarded, or some latter date. The Government of Bengal is prepared to agree that the estate shall be that which exists at the passing of the Act. This would greatly narrow the area which the right of occupancy, grounded on the presumption, would affect. As the proposal stands, it does seem a somewhat remarkable result that a right, arising out of a presumption raised by the mere fact of residence in a village, should, as between the tenant and the owner of that village, operate not only in the estate, in which the village is situate, but in the whole of an area which, from 1853, may have constituted two or three perfectly different estates from that in which the occupancy is claimed. If the Bengal Government's proposal is accepted, occupancy right, to which the presumption, while unrebuted, gives rise, will be confined to an area which, at the passing of the Bill, constituted a single estate.

53. Presumption arising from holding land as a ryot.—The presumption that a person who holds land as a ryot, has held it, or some part of it, for 12 years, has been greatly misunderstood. It has been taken as meaning that the mere fact of holding a plot of land is to throw, not only upon the landlord of that particular holding, but upon the owner of any other land in the estate, of which the ryot is in possession, the burthen of proving that the ryot has not for 12 continuous years occupied land in any portion of the estate in which the land is situate, or in any estate of which the estate in question formed a part in 1853. No such extravagant proposal is contained in the section. The presumption applies merely to the land of which the tenant is in occupation, and it operates merely as between him and the landlord of whom he holds. The removal of this misapprehension gets rid of one main objection which has been taken to the section. The proposal simply is that a ryot, holding land, shall, as between him and his landlord, be presumed to have held it or some part for 12 years as a ryot. The justice and propriety of this presumption depend on the principles which govern all presumptions. One of these is that the fact or state of things presumed shall be one of much more general and probable occurrence, in the ordinary course of human affairs, than the fact or state of things presumed against. Another is that the burthen of proving a fact is thrown on the person to whom the means of proof are more available than to the other party in the dispute. Applying these principles, the Select Committee and the Government of Bengal concur in

regarding the present presumption as no more than a recognition of existing facts; and their opinion appears to be justified by the opinion, which, I believe, had the sanction of the late Hon'ble Kristodas Pal, that 90 per cent. of the Bengal ryots are now in the enjoyment of occupancy rights. No one puts the proportion of occupancy ryots at less than 70 per cent.; and, this being so, there would seem to be reason, so far, for presuming that what in at least seven-tenths of the cases is admitted to be the fact.

54. Burthen of proof thrown on party best supplied with means of proof.—As to the question of means of proof, there can be little doubt that the landlord, as a rule, is in far better position to prove any fact about a holding on his estate than the tenant. The landlord has his office, his records and books, his accountants. There are besides the public registers, made up on returns which he is bound by law to make. On the other hand, there is an ignorant peasant, with nothing, at the best, but a few scraps of paper, which he cannot read, by way of documentary proof. If there ever was a case in which the burthen of proof may justly be thrown on the stronger and better-equipped party to a dispute, this would seem to be one.

55. Concurrence of opinion as to position of occupancy ryot.—On the whole, the definition and the presumption appear to me to be justified by the history of the case, and by the conclusions at which the Secretary of State and the Government of India have, after an elaborate enquiry, and with all the facts before them, arrived. All parties are agreed that there is a very large class of tenantry in the enjoyment of certain privileges which tend greatly to their prosperity, and so to the well-being of the State. The consolidation of those privileges, and the extension of the area to which they should extend, was one of the chief desiderata recommended by the Famine Commission. The same view has been taken by Sir A. Eden, the present Lieutenant-Governor, the Government of India, and the Secretary of State. It must now be regarded as the acknowledged and deliberately adopted policy of the British Government in India. This being so, how is this policy to be better enforced and these ends to be more effectually attained than by such an expedient as the one in question, which adopts the rule which has been in force for the last 25 years, gives to that rule the effect which the framers of the Act of 1859, in the opinion of the Secretary of State, intended it to have, and supports by presumption, which the facts of the case are shewn fully to justify? There are, no doubt, inconveniences in the definition as it at present stands. One of these is that a landlord would be unable to let a field temporarily to a "settled" ryot without his acquiring an occupancy right in it; and, again, that a person who acquires by purchase an occupancy right would seem thereby to acquire occupancy rights in all lands held by him in the estate. Another result pointed out by Field, J., is that a non-occupancy ryot, who subsequently inherited a fractional share of a single cotta, would, under sub-section (4), become an occupancy tenant of his original holding, despite a contract to the contrary. Another is that, as sub-sections 4 and 5 stand, there might be ryots with some fractional share in the father's occupancy holding, who could not live on it, but still could not hire land in any part of the estate without acquiring an occupancy right in it. But it would, I think, be possible in Committee to devise some provision to counteract these and like inconveniences; and, on the whole, if it is determined to abandon the plan, proposed by the Government of India, of conferring a right of occupancy on the tenant of "ryotee" land, whoever he may be, it is difficult to see what better general definition of the occupancy ryot can be given.

56. Incidents of the occupancy holding: Transferability.—We next come to the incidents of the occupancy right. As to these the most important difference of opinion is as to transferability. This is a very old controversy, and the evils incidental to transferability on the one side and non-transferability on the other have been exhaustively discussed. It is admitted that the occupancy ryot of the Permanent Settlement had no right to transfer, nor was the right recognized by Act X of 1859. On the other hand, there is a marked tendency of usage in the direction of transferability, and the Rent Commission reported that occupancy rights are freely transferred in every district of Bengal except Sarun and Chumparun. The statistics given in the Appendix to the Bengal Report, to a large extent confirm this statement. The Registered transfers of occupancy holdings in 1883-84 were as follows:—

	Number of transfers.	Area in bigahs.	Rental. Rs.
Occupancy holdings at fixed rates	20,000	125,000	1,97,000
Occupancy holdings not at fixed rates	47,000	313,000	3,25,000

The purchase-money was 18½ lakhs in the one case and 32 lakhs in the other, the average area being in both cases about 6·7 bigahs. During the same period occupancy holdings at fixed rates, of the aggregate amount of 3,33,000 bigahs, were sold in execution of decree for Rs. 3,41,000, and other occupancy holdings aggregating 3,74,000 bigahs were sold for 4 lakhs. This gives over a million bigahs transferred in the year, and appears to show that in many parts of Bengal, at any rate, the sale of occupancy rights has grown into a recognised custom, especially as, among the registered sales, a large number were to the landlord of the selling ryot or to other landlords. In 42,000 cases the sale was to other ryots, and in less than 10,000 to mahajuns.

57. Proposal of the Lieutenant-Governor.—Altogether the figures appear to warrant the conclusion arrived at by the Bengal Government that in Bengal Proper, as opposed to

Behar, the practice of transferring has become too generally recognised in practice to be ignored in legislation, and also that the belief that the right of transfer leads necessarily to the land passing wholesale into the hands of mahajuns has no very solid foundation. The Lieutenant-Governor proposes to substitute for the right of pre-emption given to landlords by the Bill (which all parties agree in considering unworkable) a provision giving the landlord the right of vetoing any sale made to other than a cultivating occupant. This would enable the landlord to exclude the mahajuns as a holder, and at the same time place as small a restriction as possible on the ryot's power of turning his interest in the land to the best account.

In Behar, where the practice of transfer can hardly be said to exist (only about 6,000 acres having been transferred in 1883 out of an area of 13½ millions of acres), it is proposed that the matter should be left to be regulated by local custom. The effect of this proposal will be to leave matters as they are in those parts of the country in which the custom of transfer has not yet been established; but to give legislative recognition to it in those parts in which custom is shown to be generally prevalent, at the same time assuring the landlord with an important power to veto, which he does not appear to possess at present.

58. Consequences of introduction of right of transfer.—This proposal certainly cannot be regarded as revolutionary, and it is in general accordance with the recommendation, which after mature consideration, the Famine Commission offered as the best practicable solution of this difficult question. Whichever course is adopted, some evil results will certainly ensue. On the other hand, the denial of the right of transfer admittedly lowers the value of the occupancy rights, and any restriction on it, so far, impairs its usefulness. Where it is now exercised, it would seem a harsh measure to prohibit its exercise. On the other hand, the right of transfer necessarily facilitates the acquisition of land to money-lenders and other non-agriculturists; and its introduction, where it is still unknown, leads inevitably to the wasteful employment by improvident ryots of new-found means of raising or borrowing money. In such a district, for instance, as the Sonthal Pergunnahs, the recognition of the power of sale would, no doubt, work badly in enabling a rude and improvident population to dispossess themselves of their lands in favour of a money-lending class. The report for 1883-84 of the Sonthal Pergunnahs mentions facts which appear to indicate the desirability of not forcing the extension of the power, by premature legislation, on the less advanced portions of the province.

59. Suggested modification of the Lieutenant-Governor's proposal.—It may be necessary to adopt the Lieutenant-Governor's proposal as a compromise between conflicting views; and the opponents of the right of transfer will think the compromise much better than nothing. It is certainly preferable to the proposal to give the landlord a right of pre-emption, which is open to numerous objections, and is generally condemned. There is, however, much to be said in favour of allowing such transfers to be made only to *bona fide* cultivators. As Mr. Justice Field observes, it is difficult to see "the expediency of taking away any portion of the zemindar's proprietary right in order to confer it on another class, which consists of mere receivers of rent and does not create capital by the application of labour to the soil." I should be disposed to place the veto with the Collector instead of the zemindar, whose assent would always be purchasable by a *salami* and not without one. The parties should, in every case but certain specified exceptions, disability, &c., be obliged to satisfy the Collector that the purchaser was a *bona fide* cultivator, who himself intended personally to cultivate the plot. Without a certificate from the Collector to this effect, no sale should be registered. This would no doubt narrow the area of purchasers and occasion delay; but these results would not be without their solid advantages. The right of transfer is an unhealthy growth upon the occupancy right, and by no means to be encouraged.

60. Other restrictions on right of Transfer.—Supposing His Honour's proposal to be adopted, the landlord would still retain the right of pre-emption at an auction sale under section 33, and his right, under section 34, to foreclose in case of a mortgage decree. It is not clear, however, as the Bill now stands, what would be the position of a landlord who had thus foreclosed. The ryot will not, under section 97, be able to sell a part of his holding without his landlord's consent; and (except in certain specified cases) he can make a gift of it only by registered deed. For this the Lieutenant-Governor would substitute a provision limiting gifts of the occupancy right to the donor's family, and, in that case, doing away altogether with the landlord's right of pre-emption.

61. Subletting.—Another much disputed incident of the occupancy right is the power to sublet. The Bill deals with this by providing, in section 37, that a ryot who sublets more than half his holding may (except in certain cases of disability to cultivate), on registration as tenureholder, be converted into a tenureholder, though he will still remain liable to enhancement as a ryot. The most important effect of this would be to elevate his sub-ryots to the status of ryots capable of acquiring occupancy rights. Another result would be that, in case of the holding being put up for sale in execution of a decree for rent, the property would, in the first instance, be sold subject to existing incumbrances. This section is condemned by official opinion as unworkable, and is abandoned by the Bengal Government. In lieu of this the Lieutenant-Governor proposes, by way of protection to the sub-ryot, to abandon section 62

of the present Bill, and to restore section 119 of the original Bill which limited the money-rent payable by a sub-tenant to five-sixteenths of the gross value of the produce. Section 62, which limits the sub-ryot's rent to a sum not exceeding the lessor's own rent by 50 per cent. where the lease is under a registered deed, and 25 per cent. in any other case, is discarded as calculated to produce hardship in some cases (of which the guzastadars of Shahabad are given as an instance), and as certain to be evaded in practice. The protection afforded to the sub-tenant is the least satisfactory portion of the Bill; and if the sub-ryot is to get any real advantage under the Bill, some better means for securing him from oppression and extreme competition must be devised. For my own part I am unable to see why the sub-ryot should not, as against the ryot, enjoy the same privileges, and acquire rights corresponding with those, which the ryot enjoys or acquires against his landlord. This point, however, will be discussed hereafter under the heading "Sub-ryot."

Another restriction of subletting by the ryot provided by the Bill is that the lease shall not, except in certain cases of disability, hold good for more than seven years. It does not seem to me clear how the provision would operate, whether to the advantage of the ryot or sub-tenant, or what the object of it is.

62. Enhancement by contract.—The next point is the occupancy ryot's liability to enhancement. The Bill provides for this by recognizing enhancement of a money rent, first, within certain limits, by contract between the parties, and, secondly, by decree of court on certain specified grounds. As to the first of these modes of enhancement, the conditions prescribed are—(a) that the contract must be registered; (b) that the enhancement shall not be more than 25 per cent. on the existing rental; (c) that the contract must be for a period of at least seven years, and if the enhancement is more than one-eighth, for 15 years; and (d) that the registering officer must, before registering, ascertain the legality of the contract and the competence, willingness, &c., of the ryot.

63. Objections of Bengal Government.—These provisions are objected to on opposite grounds by the two parties to the present controversy. On the one hand it is urged that there is nothing to justify the Legislature in interfering with the freedom of contract between landlord and ryot; and that as the amount of enhancement permitted in cases of contract is less than that obtainable by suit, there is a distinct premium on litigation. On the other hand the Bengal Government views with apprehension the sanction which the Bill will give to enhancements, which it considers would be fatal to the tenantry if realized in practice. It regards, too, with distrust the so-called "amicable arrangements" which are arrived at between landlord and tenants without the intervention of the Court. It fears that the maximum laid down by the Act will become the standard up to which landlords, as a rule, will endeavour to force their rental. The limit of 100 per cent. to the enhancement of a tenureholder's rent in section 8, the limit of 25 per cent. in the present section, and the same limit in the case of an enhancement on account of a rise in prices, seem to the Lieutenant Governor "excessive." The rents in Behar, he says, are already, on unimpeachable evidence, too high. An enhancement of 25 per cent. every 15 years will quadruple the rent in less than a century, a rate of increase which might well be regarded with apprehension. In face of the alarming increase which has taken place in Behar, the Bengal Government presses for the imposition of an ultimate check on enhancement in the form of a provision that in no case shall the rent be more than $\frac{1}{3}$ th of the gross produce of the staple food-crops. The Lieutenant-Governor thinks that there are no insuperable difficulties in the way of ascertaining the gross outcome, and regards the proposed restriction as the only adequate barrier against a tendency to higher rents, which must ultimately impoverish the ryot. The restriction proposed by the Lieutenant-Governor has this in its favour, that the rate of 20 per cent. is that which the landlords of Eastern Bengal, in a memorial presented in 1876, suggested as a proper maximum. One of their prayers was that, "in cases in which there was any doubt as to what the competitive rent was, a ratio 20 per cent. or one-fifth of the money value of the gross produce of the land (taking an average of 3 years) be declared as the rent to be decreed." Besides imposing this, Mr. Rivers Thompson would not give legislative sanction to a higher increase, by means of contract, than $\frac{1}{4}$ th every 15 years. This would double rents in the course of 60 years. In Behar the Lieutenant-Governor would wish the intervals at which enhancement may take place extended to 30 years.

64. Enhancement by decree of Court.—As to the second mode of enhancement the Act VIII of 1869 (B.A.), section 18, grounds prescribed by the Bill, on which, apart from a registered contract, rent may be enhanced, differ in some particulars from the existing law. Under this the grounds are—(a) that the rent is below the prevailing rent for similar holdings; or (b) that there has been a rise in prices; or (c) an increase in the productiveness of the soil, produced otherwise than at the ryot's expense; or (d) that the area which the ryot actually holds is larger than that for which he pays rent. As to the last of these grounds, which is properly treated, not as an enhancement, but as an increase of rent, owing to a rectification of an error as to the area of the holding, there is no dispute.

65. Enhancement on ground of increased productiveness.—As to (c), the Bill superimposes the condition that the increase of the productiveness of the soil must, except in the case of increase arising from fluvial action, have been at the expense of the landlord. The reasons advanced are, first, that the increase of productiveness from natural causes has proved practically impossible to prove, and the provision, as it stands, is unworkable; and, second, that

if a change is necessary, it should be in the direction of giving the tenant, and not the landlord, the benefit of any increased productiveness to which the landlord has not contributed. The only causes, apart from landlords' or tenants' improvements, by which productiveness can be increased, are the introduction of canal irrigation or fluvial action. As to the former, it seems to me imperative to make some adequate provision as to the mode in which the increased value of the soil consequent on the introduction of canals is to be divided between landlord and tenant. As the land tax payable by the landlord is fixed, and as the other taxes which he pays are quite inconsiderable, the result is that, to a large extent, the canals are made at other people's expense than at the landowner's. There is no owner's rate, as in some other parts of India, and consequently the entire burthen is thrown upon the occupier. The consequence has been that in many cases, the immediate consequence of the introduction of canals has been to double or treble the rental, and this rise of rents has been frequently mentioned by the

* Bengal Irrigation Report for 1880-81.

irrigation officers as one ~~great~~ ^{great} impediment to the progress of canal irrigation.* The occupier finds it better worth his while to go on without canal water than to take it subject to the higher rental which the landlord immediately demands. This subject ought to be expressly provided for.

As to enhancement on the ground of increased productiveness owing to fluvial action, the Bengal Government points out that *chur* or *dearab* lands, i.e., lands liable to improvement or deterioration by fluvial action, are expressly provided for by section 213, the terms of the lease being left, in such cases, to contract, subject to the acquisition of a right of occupancy by twelve years' continuous occupation, and that lands, which have ceased to be *chur* lands, ought not to be enhanced on account of an occasional inundation. The Lieutenant-Governor would, accordingly, omit this ground of enhancement. The Bill provides (section 47) that the increase of productiveness, relied on as a ground of enhancement, must not be "temporary or casual," so that the case contemplated must be such a change in the course of a river as to permanently change the character of the soil by inundation, deposit, &c., or by removing its liability to occasional inundation.

Supposing such a change, it is difficult to see why the landlord should not get a portion at any rate, of the increased value of his land; or why, as provided by section 47, the enhancement should be restricted to 25 per cent. on the previous rental, as well as a moiety of the net value of the increase. The present law seems juster to the landlord than the Bill. If the value of the soil has increased from causes to which neither landlord nor tenant have contributed, the landlord is surely entitled to a share; and if the occupancy tenant got the benefit of half the increase, he would have no reason to complain.

66. Enhancement on the ground of landlord's improvements.—As to enhancement on the ground of increased productiveness caused by the landlord, the Bill requires that the improvement should be registered, and directs regard to be had to the increase likely to be produced by the improvement; to the cost to the tenant of utilizing it; to the existing rent and the resources of the ryot; it also allows the enhancement to be made conditional on its results, and subject to review. There is a further condition provided by section 48, viz., that the enhancement must not be unfair or inequitable. The Bengal Government would further restrict enhancement by providing that in no case should the rent be more than doubled. The doubt would appear to me to be whether all these restrictions will not operate to deter landlords from laying out money in improvements, the fruition of which, in the shape of a higher rental, is circumscribed in so many directions. The matter is not, perhaps, of much practical importance, as it appears not the practice of the Bengal landlords

* Patna Conference, s. 49.

† Report, s. 67.

to invest money in improvements.* Still our legislation ought to encourage the landlord to improve. In the present condition of the law neither landlord nor tenant seem disposed to do so. "It is a fact," the Bengal Government observes,† "that over large areas in these Provinces, dependant on irrigation for a full crop a remarkable decline in the number of improvements has taken place in recent times, except where the landlords have been driven by the *baoli* or *metayer* system to improve. This fact the Lieutenant-Governor attributes to insecurity of title, and liability to enhancement which prevails. The reclaiming cultivators of earlier times, who cleared the country from jungle and built the reservoirs and embankments, which rendered cultivation possible, have been superseded by farmers, holding under short leases, whose interests are so little bound up with the land or the people that they do not find it even worth while to maintain the works which they found in existence. The more secure the ryot's title the greater his improvements."

67. Enhancement on the ground of a rise in prices.—As to (b), enhancement on the ground of a rise in prices, the Bill provides that a rise in the average prices of staple food-crops, in the locality or at the usual markets, shall be a ground of enhancement. The average price is to be ascertained by comparing the average price-lists, published by Government, of the preceding quinquennium with those of such other quinquennium as the Court thinks equitable.

S. 45.

S. 49.

The enhancement must not be more than 25 per cent. on the existing rental; no enhancement is permissible if, under the circumstances, the Court considers it unfair or inequitable; and, subject to these conditions, the enhanced rent shall bear to the former rent the same proportion as the prices of the latter quinquennium to the former.

68. Ought food-crops alone to be considered?—Upon this several questions arise. In the first place, ought the prices of the staple food-crops alone to be considered? The Lieutenant-Governor thinks that a normal rise of prices, which is the point to be considered, is, on the whole, best ascertained by reference to the general price of food staples. On the other hand, he points out cases in which the rule might work unfairly. Supposing, for instance, that food-grains increased in value, no rise taking place in the price of non-food staples, a ryot, whose crop was non-food, would find himself liable to an enhanced rent without any equivalent increase in his receipts. On the other hand, the converse case would act unjustly on the landlord. It is to be observed that, in the case of cultivators who produce only food enough for their own support, the rise in prices operates against them as affecting the cost of any labour they employ and of anything they have to buy; and, in the case of a cultivator who raises a non-food crop and buys his food, a rise in food grains, without a corresponding rise in non-food staples, is so much pure loss. On the whole, there seems no sufficient reason for the restriction of the staple crops, by reference to which prices are to be judged, to food-grains. Some officers* advocate the inclusion of non-food

* Patna Conference, p. 25.

crops on the ground that they are less liable to fluctuations than food crops. The simpler and fairer plan would seem to be to provide that the prices of all staple products should be taken into account, leaving to Government to declare in each locality what the staple crops are.

69. Ought increased cost of production to be considered?—Next comes the question whether, in cases of enhancement on the ground of a rise in prices, the increased cost of production ought to be taken into account. The Bengal Government gives cogent reasons for thinking that it ought. It seems pretty obvious that, if what we are looking to is the increased capacity of the tenant to pay rent, no inference, based on the increased value of his produce, can be sound, which does not take into account any increase of the outlay involved in obtaining that produce. Such a ground would probably be taken into account, under section 48, in considering whether the enhancement was "in the circumstances fair and equitable." The Lieutenant-Governor recommends that the increased profit derived from the rise in prices should be divided between the landlord and tenant. Thus, supposing a rise of 25 per cent. in prices, he would allow enhancement to the extent of 12½ per cent., and if this were conceded, he would abandon the restriction to 25 per cent. of the former rent now provided by section 45. This would leave the rule pretty much as it now is, *vis.*, that regard must be had to the net value of the produce.

70. Enhancement on the ground of rent being below the prevailing rate.—Another ground of enhancement provided by the Bill is that the rent is below the prevailing rate payable by occupancy ryots for similar holdings in the vicinity. The retention of this ground, which exists under the present law, is strongly objected to. Mr. Reynolds mentions it in his dissent from the report as "fraught with serious danger," and as tending, in conjunction with other provisions of the Bill (especially the removal of the restriction on the initial rent demandable from a non-occupancy tenant, and the concession of the power to increase a new occupancy ryot's rent by 25 per cent. on that of the outgoing tenant), "to put into the landlord's hand a powerful engine for enhancing rents up to the maximum amount which the tenant will pay rather than give up the land." The Bengal Government concurs in Mr. Reynolds' disapproval of the retention of this ground of enhancement, which, it says, "is condemned by the weight of authoritative opinion as illogical, unnecessary, and mischievous." As this was one of the grounds of enhancement formerly enacted by Act X of 1859, and has been recognised ever since, its abandonment needs very clear justification. The Lieutenant-Governor, after mature consideration of the facts, records his conviction that "there can be no longer any doubt that the retention of the prevailing rate as a ground of enhancement is unjust and fraught with the utmost danger to occupancy ryots who form the vast mass of the peasantry in Bengal." The grounds of this opinion appear to be that the idea of a "prevailing rate" arose from that of the "pergunnah rate," the existence of which, and the possibility of its discovery, all the earlier legislation on the subject assumes; but all recent experience has shown that no such generally prevalent rate can be discovered, nor even (such are the inequalities which from one cause or another have grown up in the same localities) constructed. Assuming, then, that no generally prevalent rate exists, the effect of a rule prescribing reference to such a rate is to provide a vague and shifting standard, which has a constant tendency to rise, according to the eagerness of the landlord to press his interests and the inability of the ryots to defend theirs. As each occupancy holding falls in, or is purchased by the landlord, the landlord will, in the case of non-occupancy ryots, demand whatever rent he pleases; and can claim an initial rent from a new occupancy tenant 25 per cent. in advance of that paid by the old tenant; and he will have, besides, the general powers of enhancement on the grounds already noticed. There will, accordingly, it is urged, be a general tendency to a rise of rentals; and the rule which allows the landlord to enhance occupancy rents with reference to other rentals which have risen in obedience to this tendency "places the rights of the vast body of cultivators at the mercy of the feeblest, the stupidest, the most venal of the class."

The Lieutenant-Governor is prepared to accept, in lieu of the present rule, a provision that enhancement may be allowed wherever the rent is shown to be unduly low with reference to the rates which prevail in the village or estate for occupancy ryots with the same advant-

ages, &c., provided that the rate has been framed and promulgated by Government under the provisions of the Bill (Chapter XI) for the framing of a table of rates.

If this suggestion is adopted, it will no doubt have the effect of freeing the reference to the prevailing rate, as a ground of enhancement, from many of the evil consequences now attributed to it, and of rendering landlords much more eager than they would otherwise be likely to be to have a table of rates drawn up. The compromise seems reasonable; and those who, with the Lieutenant-Governor and Mr. Reynolds, view with alarm the tendency to enhanced rents, will, no doubt, gladly accept it as a substantial modification of the existing law in the ryot's favour.

71. Difficulty occasioned by difference between nominal and actual rental.—With regard to the entire question of enhancement, we are met, at the outset, with a difficulty of the gravest kind. There is reason to believe that the rent actually paid, or of the payment of which there is any reasonable expectation, differs materially, in most cases, from that shown as due in the zemindars' books. Of this we have a striking instance in the experience of the Court of Wards. The estates, which, from one cause or another, come under the management of the Court of Wards, are, it must be supposed, a fair specimen of the generality. The following is the account, given in the Report for 1883-84, in explanation of the fact that, though the arrear due on the 206 estates under the Court's management during the year was 53½ lakhs, and the current demand over 54 lakhs, the actual collections were only 50½ lakhs. "This appearance of bad collections is to be explained by the system on which zemindari accounts are almost invariably kept by private proprietors. While one set of rates is entered as payable in the accounts, another rate is actually paid. The full rent which is entered in the zemindari books may be paid in the most favourable years; but, as a rule, a zemindar is willing to receive and be satisfied with a rental considerably below the amount of the full demand shown as a balance against the ryot, or, in some cases, it is kept alive by instalment-drawings executed by the ryot. Almost every estate under the Court of Wards comes under its management, with large unrealizable balances, and it is found that even the current demand is not realizable in spite of all the exertions of the managing establishment. Year after year the percentage of collections from Wards' estates is less than the current demand. The result has generally been considered unsatisfactory; but no other result can be shown without oppressing and harassing the tenantry. It is no exaggeration to say that a fair and liberal zemindar does not collect more than 75 per cent. of his nominal rent-roll on an average of years. There is good reason for believing that in some of the eastern districts the average of late years has not exceeded 60 per cent." It is obvious that such a state of things, in which the tenant has always an arrear of rent against him, which it is impossible for him to clear away, while the landlord has a nominal rental which he can at any moment enforce, but which, it is understood, will not be enforced except in some exceptionally prosperous year, or unless the tenant makes himself obnoxious—leaves the tenantry really at the mercy of the landlord, destroys every incentive to improvement and every germ of independence, and may, at any moment, become, in the hands of a grasping or unscrupulous landlord a most potent instrument of oppression. It may not incorrectly be described as the precise antipodes of the position in which it was the object of the Permanent Settlement to place the ryot.

72. Acquisition of ryots' rights by landlord, and vice versa.—One of the most important considerations connected with the status of the occupancy ryot is the effect—(1) of purchase or acquisition by the landlord of the ryot's interest; and (2) of the acquisition by the ryot of the landlord's interest, or of the fact that, during the occupancy, the same person has represented at once the occupying ryot and the landlord, either solely or conjointly with others.

As to (1) it is obvious that, if the landlord is able to buy out the occupancy tenant, and either to hold the land as khamar, or to let it to unprotected tenants, a great facility is afforded for the increase of an unprotected class of tenantry and for the curtailment of the area occupied by settled ryots.

As to the second, where, as is often the case, land belongs to several coparceners, and is held by one of their number as tenant of himself and the rest, there seems to be no reason why occupancy rights should not accrue; though, I believe, the present law is against the accrual. Sections 28 and 29 deal with this subject, but not very satisfactorily. It is not enough to provide, as section 28 does, that the acquisition by the landlord of an occupancy tenant's rights shall not injuriously affect a third person. What is wanted is a provision that the change shall not have the effect of replacing a protected ryot by a wholly dependent one. It is, besides, by no means desirable to encourage the purchase of ryots' rights by the landlord. I would meet the case by providing that, as against the ryot, the sub-ryot shall have all the rights which the ryot has against his landlord; that, if he has resided in the village or estate for 12 years, or otherwise comes within the definition of a "settled ryot," he shall be deemed to have, as against the ryot, and subject to the landlord's rights, occupancy rights; and then, on the sale of the occupancy right, the landlord would merely stand in the ryot's shoes, and the sub-ryots would become his ryots with the same rights against him that they had against the ryot. In the case of no rights having accrued to the sub-ryot, the right of imposing an initial rent and enhancement should be strictly limited to the rates and enhancement permissible in the case of occupancy tenants, so as, in effect, to place the sub-ryot in the position of the occupancy tenant whom he will replace.

As to the second case, I see no reason why the tenant, who has a share in the landlord's interest, and who, with the consent of the co-sharers, has occupied the land as tenant, should not acquire occupancy rights; but where, as in the case of a tenure-holder, the landlord's interest is subject to a higher proprietary interest, the tenure-holder ought not, as the Bengal Government points out, to be able to fortify his title against the superior holder by rights acquired by himself as occupant against himself as tenure-holder. The proposal, accordingly, to strike out the words "or tenure-holder" in section 29 appears to be reasonable.

(a) Sub-section 2 of section 29 might be worded "shall not, by occupation of land within the area of his tenure, during its continuance, acquire a right of occupancy therein."

(b) A person who has a right of occupancy in land shall not lose it by subsequently holding the same land in farm.

(c) If a person who has a right of occupancy in land in which he is joint-proprietor, subsequently, on partition, becomes sole owner of the land, such land shall become "khamar or zerat."

73. Restriction of occupancy ryot's power to contract.—One important aspect of the occupancy ryot's position, as defined by the Bill, is that presented by section 210, which enacts that no contract shall override the provisions of the Bill as to the status of the occupancy ryot, the acquisition of occupancy rights, its incidents, the occupancy ryot's right to demand a diminution of rent on the ground of deterioration of soil, fall in prices or diminution of area, his right to demand a commutation of a produce rent into a money rent, his right to make improvements and claim compensation for them, and his immunity from ejectment except in execution of decree. The removal of these important matters from the sphere of contract has naturally excited much hostile criticism, all the more so that both Act X of 1859 and Act VIII of 1869, which re-enacted it for Bengal, expressly provided that their provisions should be subject to a written contract between the parties. The propriety of excluding certain contracts of ryots from the ordinary law of contracts was much discussed, when the Indian Contract Act was passed in 1872. Sir George Campbell, who was then Lieutenant-Governor, was strongly in favour of making express provision to meet the case of contracts by ryots, and I think drafted a section or an illustration to carry out this object. His proposal was overruled, if I remember right, on the ground that the Bill, as it stood, provided sufficiently for all the grounds—fraud, misunderstanding, ignorance, undue influence, coercion, &c.—on which the legality of a contract could be impugned; and that it was better to leave the law in this form than to declare any particular class of persons incompetent to contract, or any particular class of contracts invalid. Grave reason ought to be shown for so important a change, as that now proposed, not only in the general law of contract, but in the special provisions of the rent law on the subject. But the grounds of the proposed change have, I think, been somewhat misunderstood. Act X of 1859 introduced for the first time the ryot's power of contracting himself out of the rights which the Regulation conferred upon him. The results of this provision, as of most others in that deplorably ill-considered enactment, were unforeseen by its authors. They believed themselves to be confirming the resident ryot in his rights, and opening the door to other ryots to acquire such rights. They were, in reality, putting several most formidable weapons into the hands of the landlords for the destruction of all rights whatsoever. One of these was the rule which was understood as making occupancy rights depend on 12 years' continuous occupation of the identical plot. Another was the provision allowing contract to defeat the provisions of the law. This latter provision the evidence shows to have been employed with disastrous effect. Whether it be from ignorance, stupidity, inability to look forward, or the habit of submission to a powerful landlord, it is incontestable that the *kabuliyats* obtained by the landlords from the ryots are, in a large number of instances, such as it is inconceivable that any rational man, with a due knowledge of his rights and an independent will, should be induced to sign. How these documents are obtained, whether by force or fraud, we have no means of knowing; but they must be due to one source or the other. To take one conspicuous instance, the recent Mymensing dispute, I was informed by an official, a strong advocate of the landlord's interest, who had himself carefully examined the entire file of papers, that he was perfectly satisfied that the great mass of *kabuliyats*, on which the quarrel turned, had not been *bona fide* executed by the ryots, but were either forgeries or in some other way improperly obtained. Now, to tell an illiterate peasant, whose income is perhaps Rs. 20 per annum, who is heavily in arrears to his landlord and the mahajan, that it is open to him to contest such a document on the grounds specified in the Indian Contract Act, appears to me a sort of practical joke, which, unhappily, has been frequently perpetrated by the Indian Legislature, but of which, every one is by this time heartily sick. The reasons for invalidating certain classes of contracts between landlord and tenant in England and Ireland are perfectly familiar, and they apply with still greater force in India. Speaking generally, the tenant and the landlord in this country are not sufficiently on the same level of knowledge or resources to make it possible for them to contract with that full understanding and independent will that are the essential ingredients in a valid contract. In the absence of these, any form of contract is a farce, and the law should prohibit farces wherever it is possible to do so. The section does not specify whether the intention is to invalidate all contracts within its scope, or only those made subsequent to the Act. In the latter case, effect will be given to a large number of contracts which, during the last two or three years, have been effected by the landlords in contemplation of the Act. On the whole, I am satisfied that, if all the provisions of the Act are not

to be rendered nugatory, a most stringent restriction on the power of contract is necessary. It seems questionable, however, whether the rule might not be relaxed so as to meet cases, such as those of indigo planters or wealthy ryots, in which the facts negative the possibility of oppression or undue influence, and the inability to contract would be found highly inconvenient. In such a case a proceeding before the Collector might be had to certify the competence of the parties. The relaxation, however, should, in my opinion, be kept within very narrow limits.

74. The non-occupancy ryot.—We next come to the case of the “non-occupancy” ryot. It is admitted that his position under the Bill will be far stronger than it is at present. Every non-occupancy tenant in possession will be exempt from enhancement except by a registered agreement or an agreement tendered to him through the Court under the provisions of section 60. If the ryot accepts the rent so tendered, or a rent which the court considers fair and equitable, he is safe from enhancement or eviction for five years. The court, in considering what is “fair and equitable” will have regard to the rents paid by similar tenants in the vicinity; but in no case must the rent be enhanced by more than 50 per cent.

75. Grounds of ejectment.—The non-occupancy ryot in possession can be ejected only by a decree given on the ground either—(a) that he failed to pay an arrear, or (b) that he has used the land in a manner to unfit it for the purposes of the tenancy, or broken a contract which by the contract involved liability to ejectment—and then only subject to the provisions for remedy or damages, in lieu of ejectment, contained in section 170; or (c) on the expiry of the term specified in a registered lease, if notice to quit has been served not less than six months before the expiry of the term; or (d) that he has refused to agree to a rent determined to be fair and equitable under section 60.

76. Improved position of non-occupancy ryot.—These sections give, and are obviously intended to give, a considerable degree of fixity to all existing tenancies. All grounds of ejectment, except the four specified, are taken away, and no one of these four afford the landlord the liberty of dealing in any degree as he will with the land. With a new tenant he can indeed fix what rent he pleases, but there his freedom ends. Unless in the case of a registered lease, he can, practically, never get rid of the tenant so long as the tenant either conforms to the terms of the lease, or pays the damages decreed for its breach, and submits to such enhancement as is found by the Court to be “fair and equitable” with reference to existing rents in the neighbourhood. And the provision as to the registered lease will not apply to cases where the lease is executed with a tenant already in occupation, because there is an express provision that he is not to be deemed to be “admitted to occupation by the lease, although that may be its purport.”

There can be no doubt that these provisions will be felt to work extremely harshly by the class whose existing rights they curtail. They will give a fixity of status to a large class of tenants, who do not at present enjoy it, and who in many cases certainly did not contemplate it when the tenancy commenced. It is, probably, the most violent interference with private rights which the Bill contains. The question is, can it be justified? The answer must depend on the view taken of the contention now advanced by extreme advocates of the landlord interest, *viz.*, that, whatever may be the position of the occupancy ryot, as regards non-occupancy ryots, the landlord's rights are absolute, and interference in any shape is unjustifiable. The general considerations which must govern this point, and which show such a contention to be unsustainable, have already been considered.

77. Proposal of the Rent Commission and original Bill.—The Rent Commission dealt with the case by restricting the landlord's power to evict tenants of more than three years' standing. They recommended that the evicting landlord in such a case should be bound to pay the ejected tenant a year's improved rent, besides compensation for improvements. This proposal was not generally approved, and the Bill, proposed by Sir A. Eden, put no restriction on the landlord in his dealing with non-occupancy ryots, save one, which was a provision limiting the rent in every case to $\frac{1}{4}$ th of the gross produce. The Bill, as introduced into the Legislative Council, reverting to the proposal of the Rent Commission, affixed a practically prohibitive penalty—ten years' rental, to eviction by a landlord who refused to let his tenant sit at a fair rental. The proposal of the Bill as amended by the Select Committee, is to leave the initial rent to the agreement of the parties, but to give all tenants, except those whose tenancy commences with a registered lease, a status falling little short of occupancy rights.

78. Proposal of the Bengal Government.—The proposal of the Bengal Government is somewhat different from the Bill. The Lieutenant-Governor regards all initial limitations on the rent and all direct attempts to restrict enhancement as vain, and the action of a lease, such as that contemplated in section 60 (7) as likely to be injurious, as stopping the accrual of occupancy rights. It appears to me, however, that it is the intention of section 60 (7) that, when a ryot gets the right to stay in for five years under that section, occupancy rights may meanwhile accrue. The only method in which, in the Bengal Government's opinion, the non-occupancy tenant can be benefited is by providing adequate compensation to the tenant who is evicted though ready to pay what the court regards as a “fair and equitable rent

regard being had to all the circumstances of the case, the capacity of the land and the condition of the ryot." If he refuses to pay this "judicial" rent, he should be ejected; if he agrees to pay it, he should, if his landlord insists on ejecting him, receive as compensation one-fourth of the judicial rent for each year in which he has been in occupation up to a maximum of five years' purchase. This proposal proceeds on the simple basis that a ryot who is in occupation of the soil, and is ready to pay a fair rent, has a right to stay there, and that from the historical point of view non-occupancy rents ought not to be higher than occupancy rents. The Lieutenant-Governor holds it to be established that while "the pergunnah rates existed, no class of tenant paid a higher rent than that allowed by it, and even now in parts of the country where ryots are strong, it is often the non-occupancy ryot who pays the lower rent. It is an accordance with the general feeling of the community which condemns capricious evictions as unjust and oppressive; and it would operate, not in the case of the real zemindars of the province, who do not, as a rule, evict, but in the case of subordinate landlords, newly enriched purchasers and middlemen, whose severe dealings with the cultivator are not sanctioned by public opinion or general usage. It is urged, moreover, that as the landlords gain under the Bill considerable facilities for enhancing the rent of the great majority of their tenants, they may reasonably consent, in the case of the other portion, to a curtailment, which will not in fact, interfere with what is the usual course of dealing on well-managed estates.

79. Fungal Government's proposal considered.—It is in vain to hope that this proposal will meet with acceptance at the hands of those who regard the landlord's ownership as legally absolute so far as non-occupancy ryots are concerned, and who denounce any attempt to interfere with it as an indefensible invasion of private rights. It is only to those who adopt the view that the resident ryot has, by the law of India, rights of some sort, though they have been too often obscured in practice, and that it is essential, in the interests of the community, to rehabilitate him in those rights, that the present proposal will seem even open to discussion. I have already considered the grounds which seem to me to prove that such rights exist, and must, if we are to escape general agricultural destitution, be preserved. The danger towards which India seems to me to be drifting is that of the country becoming a huge *officina*, in which millions of human beings will be competing ineffectually in a desperate struggle of existence, living chronically at the lowest point compatible with continuance of life and sinking, at the first additional pressure, below it. To avert this consummation, it seems to me essential to take every step to keep the standard of life and comfort as high as possible, and, where occasion offers, to raise it. With this object I would interfere—even at the cost of checking that immense desideratum, the growth of Indian manufactures—in order to prevent manufactures being carried on in a way to involve suffering and degradation to the operatives and, with a like view I think the Government should say—as according to the law of India, I believe that it always has said to the landowners—"You have been constituted by Government the nominal owners of that which is to the many millions of India the exclusive material of existence; but your ownership is not absolute: we will not allow those millions to be at your mercy; we will not leave the cultivator of the soil, defenceless as he is, to fight his battle with you on the ordinary ground of contract. In such a battle he is certain to suffer; unrestricted competition will drag him down into degradation and ruin, which will, eventually, be your ruin too. In your interest, no less than his, we exercise the duty and right, solemnly recorded in our written law, to interfere for his protection." Assuming this to be the attitude of Government is the provision that the actual occupant of the soil shall be entitled to sit at fair rents and unreasonable concession? We have seen what the position of the resident ryot was before Act VIII of 1859, and how it has deteriorated owing to the unfortunate language of that enactment. Can the present proposal be said to do more than establish the state of things which the authors of that Act believed to be the law of the land, and intended to preserve? I think it cannot; and believing this I sincerely trust that the proposal may commend itself to the judgment of those by whom this all-important question will have to be decided.

80. The Sub-ryot.—The case of the sub-ryot is, for several reasons, the most difficult of any with which the Bill deals. On the one hand he has no historical status whatever, being the outcome of the beneficial rents at which various classes have been allowed to sit during the last century. On the other, if, in the beneficent language of the Permanent Settlement Regulation, the Government is most bound to protect those who, as being most defenceless, most need its protection, there can be no doubt that it is here that we come on an agricultural residuum, the class without resource and ready to accept from a landlord, who is often himself in straitened circumstances, any terms which he hopes (and too often hopes wrongly) may prove compatible with his earning of the barest livelihood.

The inveterate tendency of the Bengali to sublet, which has exhibited itself in every other class, makes it quite certain that this class will increase as time goes on. Nothing is known about its numbers but that it is already large, and that in some parts, so acknowledge is the position of the sub-ryot, that his holding has a marketable value. The Bill has been criticized, and I think justly, for the practical abandonment of this class to its fate, and for leaving the solution of a difficulty and danger, which must every year become more serious, to be attempted by some subsequent Government. No Bill will be in any way satisfactory that does not look the existing, or immediately imminent, state of things fairly in the face, and provide the best means which can be devised for meeting it.

81. Provisions of the Bill for Sub-ryot.—The main provisions in the Bill, affecting the

status of the under-ryot, are (1) that any person, who holds more than 100 bigahs and sublets any part of it, shall be presumed to be a tenure-holder (section 5); and that any ryot who, except in cases of disability, sublets more than half his holding, shall on registration as a tenure-holder, be deemed to be one, except that his liability to enhancement of rent will remain as before.

The object of these provisions is that, on the ryot thus becoming a tenure-holder, his sub-ryots may move up into the status of ryots, and enjoy whatever privileges the law confers on them as such, and be in a position to acquire whatever rights of occupancy could be acquired from an owner or tenure holder. I will not discuss them, because the Bengal Government, on grounds which seem very cogent, regards them as impracticable. It remains to consider whether the same object might not be attained in a more direct manner. The other safeguards provided by the Bill are—

(1) That the landlord of an under-ryot cannot demand from him a rent exceeding his own rent by more than 50 per cent. in the case where there is a registered lease, or 25 per cent. in other cases.

s. 62.

s. 98.

s. 63.

(2) That the under-ryot cannot be ejected except on decree and at the end of the agricultural year, and on a written notice served six months before the end of the year.

(3) That his rent will be payable in instalments, not more than four, prescribed by the Local Government, and will be subject to the same rules as to alterations of amount on alteration of area, payments and appropriation, receipts, deposit, decree for ejectment for arrears, illegal cesses, damages for unreasonable suit, and distraint, relief against forfeiture, and measurement, as are provided for other tenants. He is excluded, apparently, from the provisions as to compensation for improvements, surrender and abandonment. He will thus be generally in the position of a non-occupancy ryot, except that his landlord cannot demand more rent than 50 per cent. or 25 per cent., as the case may be, in excess of his own rent, that, subject to this, there is no restriction on enhancement; that he cannot claim compensation for improvements, and that he cannot acquire occupancy rights by continuous residence.

82. Proposal of Bengal Government.—The Lieutenant-Governor does not approve the restriction of the under-ryot's rent to a specified fraction of the ryot's own rent. Such a restriction, he says, would be easily evaded, and might, in some instances, produce hardship. In substitution he recommends a rule that in no case shall the rent of the under-tenant be more than $\frac{1}{2}$ ths, or $31\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the value of the gross produce calculated in staple food-crops. As His Honour also recommends the maximum of 20 per cent. on gross produce for the ryot's rent, the result would be that, supposing ryot and under-ryot to be rack-rented the ryot would be left with $11\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the gross produce.

83. Desirability of not deferring legislation as to Sub-ryot.—This protection seems most inadequate, and, difficult as it is to devise any better means of protection, I cannot help hoping that it may be possible to do so. The authors of the Bill recognise the possibility that the powers of transfer and sub-letting, which it confers "may in time lead to a state of things in which the great bulk of the actual cultivators would be, not occupancy ryots, but under-ryots, with but little protection from the law;" but they say, "if such a state of things should ever arise, we may rest assured that the Government of the day will know how to deal with it." This appears to me a most lame and impotent conclusion of the enormous labour which has been, for several years past, bestowed on the subject. The policy of leaving to posterity to dispose of difficulties, the way through which is not apparent to ourselves, is surely one which the experience of this subject, if any in the history of Indian administration, condemns. We are now endeavouring, with the utmost difficulty, at the cost of much antagonism, class-feeling, animosity, alarm, and, I fear, of giving sore offence to the great body of proprietors in Bengal, to repair the mischief occasioned by the incomplete character of Lord Cornwallis' legislation. The reforms which cost such a struggle now might have been carried then without an effort, in fact, were believed by him to have been carried. Certain points were known to be obscure, and Mr. Shore urged that legislation should be postponed till the measure could be rendered more complete. Lord Cornwallis, however, resolved to go on, resting no doubt in the comfortable assurance that, if the protection afforded by the Regulation proved, in any case, insufficient, "the Government of the day would know how to deal with it." But has that assurance been justified? Did the authors of Act X of 1859 know how efficiently to remedy the defects of the law? or does any one now, after several years of enquiry and discussion, feel any real confidence as to the efficacy of the remedy proposed for a state of things, which is agreed on all hands to be full of danger and anxiety? The history of the case seems to me to point strongly in the direction of the desirability of dealing with the subject in a thorough, far-seeing manner, taking into account the tendencies which we know to be at work, and the results that the measure is likely eventually to bring about. Any measure which leaves the actual occupant of the soil to make the best fight he can, will, in my opinion, be a failure from the first, and will become a more signal failure every year it lasts, because the class, which it fails to protect will, year by year, become larger, its need of protection more pressing, and the consequences of the absence of protection more conspicuously disastrous. If our object is to have a substantial peasantry in occupation of the soil, how do we promote it by conferring, at

the cost of the zemindars, all sorts of privileges on a class of persons, who are themselves often considerable landlords, and not at all likely to use these rights as landlords more sparingly than the zemindars? I agree with Mr. Justice Field when he says: "I can see no reason why the proprietary interest of the zemindar should be injuriously affected by legislation for the benefit of a middleman, while the corresponding interest of the same middleman is protected, to the detriment of the actual cultivator of the soil under him. On what principle could it be contended that the portion of a Rungpora jotedar, who holds 1,000 beegahs of land, 50 or 100 of which he cultivates himself, while he sublets the remaining 900, should be protected as against the zemindar, while the tenants of the 900 beegahs, who are the actual cultivators of the soil, and who are as much deserving of care and protection, as the jotedar himself, are left more at his mercy than he is left as regards the zemindar?" The necessity of protection is, indeed, often greater, because the middleman is a smaller, and, therefore, a more grasping and tyrannical landlord. The question is, how can this protection be afforded?

84. Proposals as to sub-ryot considered.—One proposal is to allow of occupancy rights being acquired only over an area sufficient to maintain the ryot himself and his family; another is to provide that, with respect to any portion which the ryot sublets, the tenant shall acquire, as against him, the same rights which he would against a proprietor, subject, of course, to the proprietor's superior right. This latter proposal seems, at any rate, in harmony with the general spirit of customary law in India, which has always tended to give the actual occupant of the soil something less precarious than a mere tenancy at will. It is, obviously, a historical accident that the ryot be the one landlord whom the law leaves unfettered in his dealing with his tenants, while it imposes every sort of restriction on the zemindar and tenure-holder. It is an anomaly, that ought not to be allowed to remain. On the other hand, we need feel no scruple in imposing restrictions on the ryot, because, in his case at any rate, there are no vested interests; his power of subletting will be now, for the first time, recognized by the Legislature. The object in protecting the occupancy ryot is to make a substantial tenant, not to make a new class of landlords, less unfettered, less respectable, and, presumably, less considerate than those already in existence. I would, therefore, instead of section 37, substitute a provision that, immediately the ryot sublets, he should become liable, as regards his tenant, to whatever restrictions the tenure-holder is liable to as against his. This would give the under-ryot, in addition to what the Bill now gives him, the benefit of the restrictions on enhancement, the right to compensation for improvements, and the power of acquiring occupancy rights. I should be inclined to cut down still farther the margin between the rent which the ryot pays, and that which he may demand. A man who can get 10 per cent. of the gross produce of land by simply subletting it, is likely to regard that as the best thing he can do with it. This is just what we want to discourage. The object is to prevent middlemen from buying occupancy rights for the purpose of subletting them at a profit. Why should this object not be effected directly by providing that, except in cases of disability, the ryot cannot demand a higher rate than he pays? This would put an end to the middleman's business, and replace the occupancy right on its original proper footing as a protection to the occupant of the soil, not the creation of a fresh and unrestricted class of landlords.

85. Codification of the entire subject desirable.—To pass from matters of substantive law to questions of form and structure, I would venture to suggest that the Bill, though, for the most part, accurately drawn, is susceptible of improvement in scope, language and arrangement. In the first place, the determination not to follow the Rent Commission in its attempt to make the Bill a Code, mentioned in clause 10 of the Statement of Objects and Reasons, is, in my opinion, much to be regretted. The new Act ought, I think, with all deference to the contrary view expressed by the Select Committee, to be "a complete and self-contained statement of the whole law" on the subject; nor do I see why, because attention is mainly directed to certain important amendments of the existing law, the opportunity should not be taken for codifying the entire law on the subject. When is it probable that the law will be better known and more thoroughly and generally understood than at present, when so many officials have been studying and considering it for several years, and when the numerous excellent reports and memoranda, issued by the Government, Commissions, or individual officials have thrown so much light on every portion of it,—when the Government of India has formally placed before the Secretary of State an elaborate statement of its view of the whole subject, and the Secretary of State has expressed his opinion on that statement? All the cogent reasons, which have determined the Government to persevere with the codification of other branches of

• Despatch of 21st March, 1883, section 51.

Indian law, are at least as applicable to this part of the law as to any other. The Government of India* is fully alive to the serious evils which have arisen from the misapprehensions occasioned by the incomplete form of Act X of 1859, and from that enactment, intended by its authors to be an additional enactment, being understood by the courts as an exclusive enactment. It is, moreover, a matter of real administrative importance that the law as to landlord and tenant should be so clearly and concisely stated as to enable the officials, who are called to deal with it, to get a clear and comprehensive view of it. It is in the interests of all that ambiguities and obscurities should not be left for suitors and advocates to wrangle over, and the courts to spend precious hours in endeavouring to elucidate.

86. Amendments in the drafting of the Bill: Preamble.—I regret the omission of the preamble which appeared in the draft No. 437 of 17th January 1883. Considering the parti-

nacity with which the opponents of the Bill have denied all the main legal grounds on which the right of Government to legislate depends, and have taken their stand on the assertion of absolute proprietorship conferred on the zemindars by the terms of the Permanent Settlement, it seems to me well worth while to assert those grounds in an unmistakeable manner, to show, at the outset of the Bill, that the Government takes *its* stand, too, on the Permanent Settlement, and is acting unquestionably well within the letter and spirit of the regulations when it legislates in any way it thinks right for the benefit of the ryots. I should be disposed to add words to the effect that, from the time of the Moghul Government, it has been a recognised maxim that the immediate cultivator of the soil, duly paying his rent, should not be dispossessed of the land he occupies, and that the amount of this rent should not be left to the arbitrary determination of the zemindar, but should be ascertained and fixed by the Sovereign Power.

87. Illegal exactions.—I should have thought also that more prominence, emphasis and exactness should be given to the provision contained in section 85 as to abwabs and other illegal imposition. In one sense it is the key-stone of the Bill. The framers of the Permanent Settlement Regulations were fully alive to the fact that all precautions, by way of limiting rent and otherwise protecting the tenant, were vain unless collateral exactions were prohibited, and the landlord rigidly bound down to the rent reserved in the pottah. This section refers to certain impositions known as abwab, mahtut, &c., but is it clear that it forbids the landlord to levy a fine on admission, to contract with the tenant to pay cesses, &c.? I observe from his speech in Council that Sir S. Bayley seems to contemplate that the landlord will levy a fine on admitting an occupancy tenant; but if he can, what difference is there between paying the additional rental in lump sums, or paying it year by year, except that the former is the more oppressive to the tenant, and the more fatal to the chance of his being able to do justice to the land? The suit provided in section 86 is a very old contrivance, the uselessness of which experience has conclusively established. It would be far better to empower the Magistrate to impose a fine in any case in which he becomes aware of such an exaction. The section should, in my opinion, provide that, wherever a maximum rent is specified, any attempt to evade that restriction by an initial payment, and, in every case, the exaction of any payment beyond that specified in the lease, or recorded at the registrar's office should constitute a criminal offence, and that the criminal court trying the case, should order re-delivery of the payment so made.

88. Arrangement and language of the Bill.—To pass to minor questions of drafting, the Bill ought to state, at the outset, the limits of its application; but it is not till we get to its concluding sections that we learn what those limits are. Chapter XVII, for instance, it seems to me, ought to come as part of section 2. It provides for the cases in which contract shall not override the Bill, and for various cases in which the Act shall not apply, and for various cases in which custom is to govern the case. The same observation applies to section 228, which defines the limits, within which the Government, in its capacity of landlord, will be subject to the Bill. The language of the Bill, in many instances, moreover, leaves much to be desired. The definitions of "tenure-holder" and "ryot" are not exact; that of "tenure-holder" would include a mortgagee in possession or an agent—and omits, as several critics have pointed out, the fact that the tenure-holder often has more than a mere right to collect rents. Section 64 is inconsistent with section 6. Such phrases as "contracts for the reclamation of waste land" in section 212 will, I fear, prove to be a mine of litigation. So will section 213 as to "chūr" land, and section 215 as to service tenures. Section 216, as to homestead land, disposes of a most important branch of the subject in five lines, and, as might be expected, in a wholly inadequate manner. Sections 225 and 226 provide important modifications of the rights of enhancement which ought not to figure in a "supplemental chapter" along with "penalties," "power to make rules," and other like topics. Section 227, again, appears to imply that "anything payable or deliverable in respect of rights of pasturage, forest rights, fisheries, &c., is not rent. Section 228 leaves in some obscurity the extent to which the Government intends to exempt its own proceedings, in the capacity of landlord, from the operation of the Act. Clause (b) of that section is inconsistent with the repealing section and Schedule I. The Bengal Government says that the result of the definition of "estate," and the other provisions of the Act, is that the only advantage which Government intends to retain over the ordinary zemindar is that afforded by the "Certificate" Procedure. If that is so, it would be well to make it clear at the outset. Few people reading section 228 would suppose this to be the intention. Section 228 provides that nothing in the Act shall affect certain enactments, some which section 3 repeals. Section 210 leaves doubtful the question, whether it is intended to affect all contracts of the classes, or only those made since the commencement of the Act. These and other like points will, doubtless, be considered and remedied when the Bill is recommitted to the Select Committee. I refer to them as indicating that, in my opinion, such reconsideration is indispensable.

89. Recapitulation.—In the foregoing paragraphs, I have endeavoured to consider with care, and to state with some approach to exactness, the main outlines of the problem, of which the present Bill is the attempted solution. It may be convenient to recapitulate the principal conclusions which it has been my object to establish. They may be summarized as follows:—The physical, social, and economical conditions of Bengal are such as to render inevitable the growth of a dense agricultural population, whose increasing numbers must continually add to

the difficulty of existence. That difficulty does, in fact, in many parts of the Province, already exist in a somewhat acute form. The profits of the soil, to a share of which, specified by itself, the State was, by the immemorial law and custom of the country, entitled, are now divided between the Government, which receives 34 millions sterling, 150,000 proprietors, and a million tenure-holders, who receive something over 17 millions, and 10 millions of ryots, who are the tillers of the soil and live on its products. The rights of each of the three latter classes were, at the time of the Permanent Settlement, defined with accuracy, and placed, as the framers of that measure believed, on an equally secure footing, the object being that all alike should enjoy, with equal assurance, the advantages resulting from the surrender of its own rights then made by the State. The Government, at the same time, solemnly announced that this surrender in no way impaired its constitutional right of interfering, whenever it deemed necessary, for the protection of every class of agricultural tenant or its intention of doing so. While the rights of the landowners, under this settlement, have been preserved with exactitude and completeness, the privileges accorded to the ryots have, from various causes, become obscured, and, in many cases, have fallen into abeyance. A large proportion of the tenantry, however, estimated at between 70 and 90 per cent., enjoy occupancy rights. The position of the rest, as well as of the tenants to whom these occupancy tenants sublet, is unsecured by legislation, and shows a dangerous tendency to the consequences of unrestricted competition. Legislation, which was undertaken in 1859 with a view of affirming the privileges of the resident ryot, and of enlarging the definition of occupancy rights, has subverted an altogether opposite purpose, and proved a powerful instrument for the destruction of occupancy rights. The Act has been, and is being, extensively employed for this purpose: in parts of the Province occupancy rights are on the high road to extinction. As competition increases, and the value of land rises, this tendency is likely to intensify. General poverty in one part of the Province and agrarian troubles in another attest the presence of unhealthy relations between landlord and tenant and the necessity for legislation. The facts of the case and the opinions of the best-informed advisers as to the remedies for which they call, have been made, for several years past, the subject of a research more prolonged, more patient, exact and thorough than any known in the annals of Indian Administration. In the course of the investigation certain conclusions have been arrived at, and certain principles have been agreed upon, by the Secretary of State and the Government of India, as shaping the course of the forthcoming legislation. Those conclusions and principles are supported by as weighty a body of official opinion as was ever brought to bear upon a great administrative question. They are in general accordance with the recommendations offered by the Famine Commission, after two years' elaborate enquiry into the condition of the agricultural classes, and with the deliberately recorded opinion of successive Lieutenant-Governors of the Province. The proposed course of action has given surprise and annoyance to landlords, who were fast losing sight of the constitutional and legal restrictions by which the ownership of land in India is surrounded. The natural resentment at an unwelcome curtailment of rights, believed to be absolute, has unfortunately been fostered, alike by contemporaneous political events and the unhesitating advocacy of allies to whose co-operation and sympathy great importance was, with good reason, attached. This state of things, while it enhances the difficulty of a peaceable solution, renders it imperative on those who disapprove of that advocacy, as founded on an incorrect historical view and an unsound economical theory, to explain explicitly the reason of their dissent. With this conviction I have felt it my duty to lay before the Government, I fear, at wearisome length, the grounds on which I believe the proposed enactment to be perfectly within the legislative powers of the State, and to be calculated to promote the true interests of the classes whom it concerns.

Dated 27th October, 1884.

From—Honorary Secretary, Bihar Landholders Association,

To—Secretary to Government of India, Legislative Department.

With reference to the Bengal Tenancy Bill as amended by the Select Committee of the Legislative Council, I have the honour to submit the following remarks:—

The survey clause is one of the most important clauses of the Bill, and, though alleged to have been drafted in the interest of the raiyats, it is about the only clause in the Bill which the raiyats as a body consider to be most objectionable.

The idea of a general survey-cess is totally repugnant to their feelings. Nor is this difficult to understand. They have been told that the survey-cess is going to be levied, but they are kept in the dark as to the mode in which this cess is to be levied; and it is perfectly clear that they will continue to object to the survey-cess till such time as they are furnished with the details. Is this cess to be levied throughout the whole of Bengal or only in those villages that will be surveyed? Is it to be made a permanent cess, or is it only temporary? These are the questions that are naturally raised by the raiyats. They for the first time hear that it is proposed to increase the taxation further for paying the expenses of the Revenue officer's establishment in each district. This leads them to think that the survey-cess is proposed to be introduced chiefly to meet this heavy extra expense. Hence they think that it is likely to become a permanent tax.

It need hardly be stated here that the zemindars take objection to this clause on precisely the same grounds as the raiyats. Some years ago Sir Ashley Eden appointed a commission to enquire into the rent question in Behar. It was composed of civilians, lawyers and zemindars, all of whom had great practical experience of the manner in which the present rent law had worked.

But the Bihar Rent Commission never proposed the idea of having a general survey. This in itself is a conclusive argument against this most objectionable chapter.

It might here be mentioned that the raiyats do not need Revenue officers to protect their interests, nor have they made any such request to Government. If this survey is legalised, it will inevitably lead to immense litigation. Act VII of 1876 was passed to compel the zemindars to register their rights in the Collectorate. Eight years have passed since then, and there are still some *dakhal kharij* cases remaining undecided, though the Act has been in operation for years. The zemindars, however, represent only a very small proportion of the community, and if a period of eight years is not sufficient to procure the record of their rights, even one hundred years would be insufficient to record the rights of raiyats who form nearly the whole population of Bihar.

As an instance we might cite the instance of many partition cases. In these cases every field in the estate has to be measured and assessed, but we find that, even with special Batwara Deputy Collectors in each district, it sometimes takes as much as twenty years to get an estate partitioned. How much more difficult would it then be to measure a whole district in a short space of time? As a case in point I would refer you to the Batwara of Darbhanga which seems likely to last as long as a Chancery suit under Lord Eldon.

The zemindars and raiyats are both content with the present state of things. In those cases, where there is a dispute about the area of a holding or the classification of its land, the Civil Court has the power to depute an officer to measure and classify the holding. The interested parties should be made to pay the expenses. Nothing beyond this is needed. Why should those raiyats who are not likely to derive the slightest benefit from the measurement be made to pay for the possible benefit of others?

Is this survey cess to be collected by the zemindars, as in the case of the road and public works cesses, or by the Government? In the first case, are the zemindars whose powers of realizing rent practically crippled by the proposed Bill, to be compelled to suffer on account of the non-realization of this cess from the tenants?

Is it fair to make the zemindars responsible for the collection of any cess from the raiyats? Is it fair for the Government to appoint any one as a tax-collector without his wishing to act in that capacity, and is it just to make the property of the tax-collector liable to summary sale for the arrears of the tax-payer?

Surely these are not the principles by which the English Government is supposed to be guided in its administration of the Indian Empire?

If, on the other hand, Government wishes to collect the tax direct from the raiyats, through its own agency, it should let the raiyats know the procedure it wishes to follow in realizing this cess. Does it wish to make the properties of raiyats liable to summary sale, or simply to work with the same agency as the zemindars, namely, that of the Civil Courts only? All these questions ought to be answered and put before the raiyats in a clear and categorical manner.

Taking the Bill as a whole, it appears to the Association to be an unnecessary and mischievous measure. The objections to it have been most ably stated by Mr. Henry Bell in his pamphlet "the Restoration of the ancient Land Law, or the Ilbert Bill No. II." I have no desire to go over the ground which has already been traversed by a gentleman so thoroughly acquainted with this important subject, but I would refer you to the events which have taken place since Mr. Bell's pamphlet was published. The Chief Justice of Bengal has issued an able minute condemning the Bill in most unqualified terms. He is followed by Mr. Justice Field, an able and learned jurist, who has made the rent law his special study. In a calm and judicial minute, Mr. Justice Field simply tears the Bill to pieces. I would refer you to his concluding paragraph, in which he briefly sums up his reasons for considering that the Bill ought to be thrown out.

Going from the region of theory into that of practice, I would ask you to note the following points: It has been asked by more than one writer on the subject why, if this Bill is such a beneficial measure, Government do not extend its benefits to the raiyats in the *khas mahals* and estates under Court of Wards? This is a fact which in itself speaks volumes; but, when we find (as has recently been shown in the Mednipur rent cases) Government enhancing its raiyats' rent in some cases as much as 300 per cent. and passing an Act with retrospective effect to legalise and enforce this enhancement, zemindars are tempted to wonder why such heavy restrictions are placed on them.

It is notorious that the effect of the mere agitation caused by this Bill has been to unsettle the minds of raiyats, and to make them withhold payment of their rents under the vague notion that Government will soon transfer their *jules* to them in absolute ownership. The result of this is that many zemindars, who were formerly well-to-do, are now reduced to utter distress. On the one hand, they find their incomes suddenly cut off; on the other hand, they must somehow find the money to pay Government revenue before sunset of the appointed day on pain of having their ancestral estates summarily sold by auction.

If the Bill become law, the evils which I have endeavoured to point out would be increased twenty-fold. Abolish all freedom of contract and existing contracts, and give occupancy-

raiya's absolute freedom of sale, and the very class whom it is sought to benefit would in a very few years become the bondsmen of the *mahajan* and the *mokhtar*. They will be egged on to engage in litigation with the zemindar who has befriended them in seasons of want or distress: their natural extravagance and thriftlessness will be encouraged to the uttermost, until they will be compelled to mortgage or sell the *jotes* which they and their forefathers have held for generations past, and they will ultimately become mere serfs on the land which they once tilled. That this is not a fanciful picture is shown by the Resolution passed by the Lieutenant-Governor, Mr. Rivers Thompson (himself an advocate for the Bill) on the Annual Report on the Southal Parganas for 1883, published in the supplement to the *Calcutta Gazette* of 23rd July last. The privileges of free transfer were bestowed upon the Southal Parganas with the exception of the Damun-i-koh. In 1878 Mr. John Boxwell (another advocate for the Bill) reported that "instead of borrowing money, which I presume was repaid when their crops were reaped and sold, the cultivators were selling their holdings." In 1881 and 1882 it became known that these sales had largely taken place, and that in many cases the Southals were working as labourers on lands in which they had formerly held rights. Moreover these changes had all occurred "in the years since 1876, all distinguished, not only by good harvest, but by prices most favourable to the producers." These words speak volumes. Now mark the result. Mr. Oldham, the Deputy Commissioner, writes:—"I was followed by crowds clamouring for the restoration of their lands and complaining that they could get no advances. Were the buyers fellow-tenants or even proprietors intent on merging tenancies, there would be nothing to be said. But they are not. They are all either Bengali traders and money-lenders from Birbhum and Burdwan, or the far more dangerous class, Bhagut traders from Bujpur.

Though Mr. Rivers Thompson attempts to combat this latter assertion, he is compelled to admit that the figures for 1883-84 are 691 sales to money-lenders and 1,932 to raiya's. The purchases of holdings by the zemindars themselves are very few. His Honor goes on to remark:—"It is of the utmost importance to the civil administration of the Southal Parganas that the Southals should retain possession of their lands. The growth of a large class of Southali labourers working for interlopers on lands once their own must be checked by every legitimate means as being dangerous to the peace of the country, and of benefit only to a few individuals who are actuated in their dealings with the people by mere mercenary motives, and who consequently are the greatest obstacles to the prosperity of the country."

These are wise and true words. Here we have an instance of the disastrous effects resulting from "free transfer" being established in a small part of the provinces administered by the Lieutenant-Governor, and in the face of this it is proposed to establish this mischievous principle throughout the length and breadth of these provinces. On the subject of subletting, one of the members of the late Rent Commission said:—"The utmost rack-renting is to be found when the right of occupancy falls into the hands of mahajans (money-lenders) or other persons who do not cultivate themselves, but sublet to *korfa* raiya's (actual cultivators). The Famine Commission refer to the same subject in the following terms:—"The question of subletting seems to us of even greater importance. The more valuable the occupancy-right becomes by reason of such measures of protection as we have advocated, the more need there will be of guarding against a custom, which is everywhere prevalent in India, under which the privileged tenant is apt to turn into a middleman subletting the land, and living on the difference between the rack rent and the privileged rate secured to him by the law. The occupancy-right can only be beneficial to the community when enjoyed by a *bona fide* cultivator, and the object of the law should be to prevent any one who is not a *bona fide* cultivator from acquiring or retaining such right."

The custom of subletting is not so generally prevalent as it is assumed in the above extract; but the provision of the Bengal Tenancy Bill, if passed into law, will intensify the evil tenfold.

Mr. Tobin, in his enquiry, found that where subletting was allowed by custom, as amongst the *guzastha* raiya's of Shahabad district, the raiya's sublet their rights at from twice to ten times the rates of rent they do pay.

On the subject of commutation of produce-rent, I have simply to draw your attention to the opinion of one of the most experienced officials of this Division. Mr. Halliday, the commissioner of the Division, says:—"On the question of commutation of *bhaoli* rents in Bihar, it would be most inexpedient to adopt more active legislative measures for the commutation of these tenures. I not only believe that great mischief could be done if commutation were hastily or rashly carried out, but I think further that in this respect we should leave matters alone. I am sure that it is a right acceptance that lands on which a money-rent has once been introduced are not likely to be held *bhaoli* again. Our experience in the settlement of the Gya escheated lands, recently undertaken, shows that the raiya's almost invariably opposed the commutation of the system of *bhaoli*, notwithstanding the specially favourable terms proposed, and my belief is that in these cases an offer of re-commutation would certainly be accepted. * * * I would not confer by direct legislation any power in the zemindar to force commutation on the raiya's, but neither would I give the raiyat the exclusive right to force commutation on the zemindar."

Mr. Halliday continues:—"The special condition in the Bill, that the raiyat's application for commutation must include all the *bhaoli* lands of his holding, will not be looked upon by the raiyat as an unmixed blessing to himself. The restriction which is considered necessary in the

interest of the zemindár will as a matter of fact make the provision of the law a dead letter, and things will in reality remain much as they now are. The raiyat would probably only require commutation for the best land in his holding, while the zemindár would strive for the reverse, and the condition in the present Bill will not satisfy either party. But supposing the commutation principle of the present Bill be adopted, the deductions proposed in the last clause of section 90 will not be altogether fair upon the zemindárs. The conversion of one or two or even of several holdings of raiyats in an estate will not relieve the landlord from the expense and responsibility of maintaining the village irrigation-works to the same extent as before, if he did not wish to lose all prospect of profits from the remaining *bhaoli* tenures. The irrigation works then being maintained by the zemindár as before, it would not be difficult for the raiyats whose *bhaoli* tenures had been changed to money-rents to avail themselves surreptitiously or by force of the benefits of the zemindár's irrigation works. These holdings should be scattered all over the village amidst other holdings not so converted, and it would be simply impossible for the zemindár to prevent the one set of raiyats from reaping the advantage of irrigation designed for the other set. All this must certainly be taken into consideration from the zemindár's point of view. I used above the expression *by force*, because it must be remembered that the zemindár of Behar has not to deal invariably with only the unresisting helpless raiyat, the so-represented typical cultivator of Behar. There are Bráhmans, Bábhans, Rájputs and Muhammadans, who as raiyats are perfectly capable of maintaining their own interests, being thoroughly acquainted with the rights they possess under the law, and are also equally capable of combining powerfully against the zemindár in the exercise of supposed rights which they may not possess under the law. These do not form by any means a small class, and must be taken into the calculation in determining the question of the commutation system."

For the reasons above stated, and for those so ably stated by the gentlemen to whom I referred, the Association desire me to record their protest against the Bill.

No. 2201T.—R., dated 9th October, 1884.

From—The Officiating Under-Secretary to the Government of Bengal,

To—The Assistant in Charge, Legislative Department.

1. Letter No. A., dated 22nd September, 1884, from the Munsif of Mozufferpur.

2. Letter No. 1672G., dated 23rd September, 1884, from the Officiating Collector of Shuhabad.

3. Letter, dated 22nd September, 1884, from the Honorary Secretary, Orissa Association.

4. Letter, dated 16th September, 1884, from the General Secretary to the Behar Indigo Planters' Association.*

* Not printed. Already circulated as papers No. 54.

In compliance with the request made in a telegram, dated 1st October 1884, from Mr. Fitzpatrick, I am directed to forward copies of the papers noted on the margin, relating to the Bengal Tenancy Bill.

No. A., dated 22nd September, 1884.

From—The Munsif of Mozufferpore,

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

With reference to your circular No. 9T.—R., with enclosure, I have the honour to submit that the procedure sections of the Bill require no modifications just at present. They seem to be workable, and the finality given to judgments in petty cases meets with approval. In my humble opinion the filing of boundary with the plaints should not be made compulsory. Petty suits to recover arrears of rent (in which the *jamá* is not disputed) should not be made complicated by questions about correctness or otherwise of boundaries of the lands the rent whereof is sought to be recovered. In such cases only the number of Government survey will suffice.

On enquiry from old-standing pleaders I learn that there is no local custom here recognizing any right in a raiyat to his holding occupied for less than twelve years. In my experience also I did not find the existence of any such custom. If the payment of rent is withheld, such raiyats are ejected by the zemindár. But not so in the case of homestead or *gharari* and *bári* land, as it is called here. Such lands are generally rent-free, no ground-rent or *kathiari* being paid for it, especially in the case of high-caste men, such as Bráhmans, Rájputs, and Kayests. The low-caste people render some sort of service in lieu of payment of rent. But in cases in which homestead lands are rent-paying, the *málik* has not the power to turn out the recusant assamees without the aid of a Court of law. He has to sue them for arrears, and in execution of his decree to sell their houses, though this is seldom done. The *basta* land is generally exempted when the occupancy-right in the *kásht* is put up for sale. But I do not think there is any well-established custom of the sort.

2. The Tenancy Bill has undergone material alterations, and the present Bill as re-cast and revised by the Select Committee is decidedly an improvement upon its predecessors. Throughout the Bill a desire to do even-handed justice to both the zemindár and the raiyat is apparent, and every possible restriction to guard the poor raiyats from the oppression of their rich landlords seem to have been imposed. The provisions generally appear to be good and beneficial, but there are certain matters which call for comment.

First.—Clause (3) of section 5 seems to be defective. It does not include those raiyats who cultivate and hold lands in rent-free mahāls under settlement from lākhirājdar, jagirdār, &c., as also the tenants of those mālīks who did not possess entire estates at the time of the Permanent Settlement, and whose mahāls therefore were made subordinate to the parent estate or zemīndārī in respect to the payment of Government revenue.

Section 5, clause 5, is open to objection. Thikādārs, mahājans, and land-jobbers can in collusion with refractory raiyats attain to this position of taluqdārs without any great difficulty, to the detriment of both the mālīk and the raiyat. That part of the definition of a "settled raiyat" which confers on a raiyat holding land (how infinitesimal soever it may be) continuously for 12 years the status of settled raiyat in regard to other lands of larger areas held for a shorter time, under a pattā even providing against the accrual of a right of occupancy, is objectionable.

Second.—Further restrictions should be imposed upon the raiyats' power of transfer. As a class of people, they are most improvident and thoughtless, and a marriage or a *waradh* will in no time convey wholesale all their lands either to the mahājan or land-jobber, and reduce them to the position of day-labourers. Again, the provisions of the Bill alone will not sufficiently protect the interests of the landlords against the refractory tenantry colluding with the mālīk's bitterest enemy solely for the purpose of annoying and harassing him. The pre-emption clause may, with advantage, be made applicable to all kinds of raiyats and tenuro-holders.

Third.—The position and status of the *khudkāsi* raiyats and of the tenants of mālīk's *zerāis*, *shir* and *khamar* lands should be more clearly defined.

Fourth.—The rules laid down for enhancement of rent of occupancy-raiyats are rather intricate, and it is doubtful how far they will prove workable.

Fifth.—A long-felt want is attempted to be removed by the introduction of the chapter on "Record-of-rights;" but at the same time the contemplated work is sure to take a long time to accomplish. Moreover, it is feared that, like the Land Registration Act of 1876, it will prove a fruitful source of litigation for years to come, and to a great extent be the indirect cause of disturbing the friendly relations existing between the zemīndār and his tenantry.

Sixth.—The position of the patwārī should undergo some change. He should be either made entirely subordinate to the zemīndārs whom he serves, or be treated as a Government servant to all intents and purposes. Much mischief is done by his anomalous position. He should be made personally liable at least for preparing false and incorrect village-papers and granting false rent-receipts, and a zemīndār should not be made to suffer unless it is proved that it was done with his direct knowledge. The introduction of printed receipt-books with counterfoils and of compulsory pattās and kabulyats should be insisted upon.

Memorandum by Officiating Collector, Shahabad, No. 1672G., dated 26th September 1884.

Copy forwarded to A. P. MacDonnell, Esq., with Mr. Nolan's compliments, with reference to Commissioner of Patna's memorandum No. 70R., dated 3rd instant.

No. 1662G., dated 23rd September, 1884.

From—The Officiating Collector of Shahabad,

To—The Commissioner of Patna Division.

I perceive from your memorandum No. 70R., dated 3rd instant, that Mr. Forbes' proposal to introduce provisions in the Bengal Tenancy Bill for legalising underletting to indigo-planters is receiving special attention, and I request permission to record a few observations on the subject, the report of what I said at the Conference not correctly expressing my view.

2. I quite agree with Mr. Forbes that it is desirable to permit planters to obtain from raiyats with the least possible trouble land required for indigo cultivation. It appears to me that sufficient facilities are afforded for this by the Bill as it stands, the restrictions imposed by that measure on underletting not being apparently of a nature to affect indigo-planters. The limit of the period of sub-leases to seven years is of little importance to them, as the same land cannot be cultivated with indigo for a longer period, while the provision against excessive rents being realised through the Courts is of no importance practically, as planters obtain land not by giving high rents but considerable premiums. I should say that the planters would not attach any value to the proposal made in their supposed interests. If, however, it prove otherwise, and the planters press the point, I see no objection to the removal of restrictions on sub-letting for *bona fide* indigo cultivation, except the general objection to all class legislation, and it must give way to any economical necessity.

3. I also agree with Mr. Forbes and Mr. Norman in considering it undesirable that planters should, as under the *kartauli* system, take under-leases of lands they do not require for indigo merely to sublet them again to the original holders. It seems to me that the under-tenant of an occupancy-raiyat should not be allowed himself to underlet. Mr. Forbes, while disapproving of the *kartauli* system, remarks that in nine cases out of ten it is a defensive alliance between the planter and raiyat against the zemīndār; he might have added that the alliance is on such terms as to place the weaker party to it entirely at the mercy of the

stronger. I fear it resembles the fabled alliance of the man and the horse against stag, and would have the same result. *Non equitem dorso, frennen non depulit are.*

4. What appears to me most objectionable is that restrictions on subletting should be removed all over these provinces merely for the sake of legalising a local practice affecting an area which, by comparison with the country as a whole, is insignificant.

Dated 22nd September, 1884.

From—The Honorary Secretary, Orissa Association,

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

I am directed by the Orissa Association at Cuttack to submit, for the kind consideration of the Government, their own views and opinions embodied in the following paragraphs on the revised Tenancy Bill. This was originally proposed to have been submitted through the Commissioner along with his own report on the subject, but unavoidable circumstances, the Association regret, prevented it from adopting such a course. The opinions expressed below of the Association as regards the Bill refer mainly to its general principles and not to its details.

2. The Association recognises the necessity for amending the land law of Bengal and Behar with a view (1) to give increased facilities to the landlord for enhancement and easy realisation of arrears of rent, and (2) to give additional security to the actual cultivators of the soil in the enjoyment of the fruits of their own labour.

3. In the opinion of the Association the land law both as regards Government estates and zemindari mahals should be assimilated, especially as regards enhancement and realisation of arrears of rent. It does not see why there should be separate laws for the Government estates and the zemindari mahals to meet the same end. From an assimilation of this kind much good is expected, as it will have the beneficial effect of familiarising the local authorities with the real wants of both the rent-payers and rent-receivers.

4. The Association does not think it desirable to extend the proposed law to Orissa for the present at least, and is of opinion that if hereafter occasion arise for its extension in whole or part thereof, it should be done subject to legislative sanction. For they think it is unsafe to leave to the discretion of the executive Government extension of a law of such a paramount importance, involving the interest of the entire population of a province.

5. The whole of the province of Orissa is temporarily settled, and the next settlement is to come on within a few years hence. It is not therefore, in the opinion of the Association, desirable to make any change in the existing law of the country until that period.

6. The land-tenures of Orissa differ materially from those of Bengal and Behar, so much so that many of the provisions of the law under review, which can so well apply to the latter, may be deemed quite inapplicable to Orissa at present. The Association, however, thinks that if necessity arises hereafter for the introduction of any of the sections of the law into Orissa, they might be introduced under legislative sanction.

7. Taking into consideration the Chapter II with section 37, the Association deprecates the provisions made in the Bill for increasing the already too numerous classes of tenure-holders, who are said to be the most rack-renting of all the landlords existing, and thinks that every effort should be made to diminish rather than increase their number. But what the Association is most afraid of is that if the Bill be passed into law, it may have a disastrous effect on the peasantry. The Association thinks that the conversion of occupancy-rights into tenures under any circumstances will not deter mahajans from purchasing their rights.

8. Registration under section 15 should be made compulsory either by providing a penalty for non-registration within a specified space of time or declaring the transfer invalid if not registered within that time.

9. The Association consider Chapter IV as unnecessary. In all matters, except as to enhancement of rent, raiyats with fixed rent should be treated as raiyats with rights of occupancy.

10. The Association deprecates the provisions laid down in sections 25 and 26, which give to the settled raiyat the right of occupancy, even in land situated within the village or estate belonging to petty jagirdars and other free holders, if he is but allowed to cultivate it for a single season.

11. Sections 28 and 29 provide that if one or more of the several joint-proprietors or tenure-holders acquire the right of occupancy of a raiyat, each of them will retain it. Even a neighbouring zemindar or a mahajan is allowed to retain that right should he acquire it by purchase or otherwise. But it is only in the case of the landlord acquiring the same by purchase that the occupancy-right shall cease to exist. The distinction is invidious and unnecessarily harsh. The Association proposes that either the two sections referred to above be altogether omitted, or that a provision be made to the effect that if the purchaser of an occu-

pancy right lets out the whole or a part thereof, the right of occupancy shall cease to exist with respect to that portion. The Association prefer the latter course, as it thinks that every endeavour ought to be made to give fixity of tenure to the actual cultivator.

12. Referring to section 31, the Association is of opinion that the right of succession should only be transferred to the lineal descendants of the deceased or other member of his family living jointly with him. The Association would altogether omit the right of transfer, or give it only under this condition, that the inheritor would retain that right if he cultivates the land himself. But if he lets it to a third party the right will be transferred to him, i.e., to the actual cultivator.

13. As regards the right of pre-emption, it appears to the Association that under the Bill as it stands, the landlord, if he purchases occupancy-right, will, in the majority of cases, purchase a bag of wind. But if the suggestion of the Association as to the transfer of the right to actual cultivators be adopted, there will be no ground for complaint.

14. The Association deprecates all restriction put by section 41 and other provisions of the Bill under free contract, and does not understand why, when a court of law can enhance rent by 25 or 50 per cent., the parties cannot between themselves agree for the payment of more than 12½ per cent.

15. The Association recommends to take away the restriction put in section 46 (a), and regrets to find that the Bill as a whole has a tendency to increase litigation and to discourage the existence of any sympathy between the landlord and the tenant.

16. The use of the words "staple food-crops" in section 50 will, the Association apprehends, be productive of great hardship. It does not see why no account should be taken of more valuable crops, such as indigo, tobacco, oilseeds, cotton, &c.

17. Commutation under section 53 ought not to be allowed except with the consent of the landlord.

18. The compulsory registrations under section 57 would, in the opinion of the Association, be vexatious, and should therefore be omitted.

19. Section 62, the Association thinks, will encourage subletting which may temporarily be allowed under the exceptional circumstances contemplated in section 37 (a), but in all other cases the law ought to distinctly provide that the lessor cannot receive from the lessee more rent than what he himself pays.

20. The Association approves of the proposition made in sections 70 to 72 regarding the grant of receipts and accounts. But the forms appended are such as it would almost be impossible for the landlord to grant receipts regularly if, as the Association understands, he has to state in each separate receipt for each payment the particulars of the holding and of all previous payments.

21. The Association does not think that the provisions for distraint made in Chapter XIII are necessary. The present law should be allowed to stand.

22. The law should make some provision to facilitate the landlord using lands held by raiyats for making tanks, embankments, or other improvement of the estate.

23. For the realisation of arrears of rent the patni sale law should be adopted in the case of tenures and other transferable holdings.

24. In the case of non-transferable holdings, provision should be made to the effect that when the landlord files a plaint stating the amount of arrear for full one year or more, a notice should be given to the raiyat to pay up the arrears or dispute the zemindar's claim within a month from the date of receipt of notice, and if he does not he should be considered to have forfeited all his claims to the possession of the land. If he does not pay or dispute the zemindar's claim within that period, or in case of dispute he does not pay the amount the court may decree within one month from the date of the decree, he should, on the zemindar's application, be ejected, and his property sold for the amount decreed, provision being at the same time made against fraud on the part of the landlord.

Dated 24th November, 1884.

From—BABU RAJKISOORE MOOKERJEE, Cultivator-raiyat, Utterpara,

To—The Secretary to Government of India, Legislative Department.

I have the honour to submit herewith a memorial on the subject of the Bengal Tenancy Bill, numerously signed by Bengal raiyats and addressed to His Excellency the Viceroy, and I request the favour of your laying it before His Excellency. I also forward 70 spare copies of the memorial.

To His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General of India in Council.

The humble Memorial of the undersigned
raiyats of Bengal.

MOST RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH,—That your petitioners have read with great concern the Bill entitled the Bengal Tenancy Bill, now under the consideration of the Legislative Council of India, published in the *Calcutta Gazette* of April 16th, 1884.

2. That your petitioners have noticed with great alarm the provisions in the Bill aforesaid relating to the grounds of enhancement of rent and the limits of enhancement of rent and to the distinction drawn between occupancy and non-occupancy raiyats as to the rates of rent payable by them.

3. That your petitioners entirely agree in the following observations made by the Hon'ble H. J. Reynolds in his memorandum of dissent from the finding of the majority of the Select Committee, published in the *Calcutta Gazette* of April 16th, 1884, Part VI, page 264: "For, as agricultural holdings must from time to time fall into the hands of the landlords, and as the landlords are left free to let these out at almost any rental they may think fit to demand, it is evident that the prevailing rate will steadily increase, and that this rate will regulate the rents not only of tenants newly admitted to occupation, but of the general body of the tenantry." Your petitioners notice with pleasure that the same view is taken by the Government of Bengal in its Circular No. 3T-R., dated Darjeeling, the 24th May, 1884, addressed to the Commissioners of Divisions. In paragraph 11 of the Circular it is said: "It must be remembered that through the operation of the pre-emption clauses of the Bill (if they are retained) and through the falling in of tenancies owing to ryots' deaths or desertions of their holdings, a very considerable quantity of *raiya* lands does yearly fall into the hands of landlords, who, under the provisions of this Bill, may deal with it in the first instance under Chapter VI, and let it to non-occupancy raiyats at rates above the prevailing occupancy rate. These lands might subsequently be let to settled ryots of the estate or village at further enhanced rates, and so become occupancy lands, the enhanced rate payable for which would be available as evidence to raise the hitherto prevailing occupancy rate of the village." Your petitioners, therefore, regard section 42, clause (1) of the Bill as dangerous to their interests.

4. That your petitioners feel themselves aggrieved by the provision for enhancement on the ground of a "prevailing rate" [section 43, clause (a)]. Your petitioners need not state at any length the reasons for regarding this provision as a grievance for they are clearly set out by the Government of Bengal in its letter No. 1906 T.-R., dated Darjeeling, the 15th September, 1884, addressed to the Government of India and published in the Extra Supplement to the *Gazette of India*, October 11th, 1884, page 92. The reasons are stated in paragraph 40, page 117 of the Supplement.

5. That your petitioners also regard section 43, clause (b) as unjustly affecting their interests, for it lays down that a rise in the average prices of food crops shall be a ground of enhancement. A rise in prices not occasioned by the skill, industry, or expense of the landlord; and your petitioners do not see what claims the landlords have to any advantage resulting from a rise in prices. A rise in prices may be very often only a very lucky accident to the raiyat, and he is entitled to its full benefit. Where the rise in prices is not distinctly traceable to any action of the landlord's, it is the raiyat alone who, your petitioners submit, is entitled to all the advantages arising out of the fact. Your petitioners do not raise the slightest objection to clause (c) of section 43 which allows enhancement on the ground of improvements effected by the landlord. But a rise in prices is never the result of any step taken by the landlord; and your petitioners submit that the landlord is entitled to no enhancement save such as may be claimed on the ground of his having taken active steps to improve the quality of the land or enhance the value of the produce. Your petitioners notice with regret the fact that the Government regard as indisputable the claim of the landlord to enhance rent on the ground of a rise in prices. In paragraph 13 of the letter addressed by the Government of India to the Government of Bengal, No. 784, dated Simla, the 5th May, 1884, it is said: "In many parts of Bengal the rise in prices of recent years has been very considerable, and the complaints of the zemindars that under the present law they have been unable to obtain a proportionate increase of rent are admitted to be well-founded." Your petitioners crave leave to submit that zemindars have no claim to a proportionate increase of rent. Rise in prices is determined by economic conditions which are not under the control of the zemindar, and he can no more claim an enhancement on this ground than he can if the raiyat gets a large legacy under the will of a stranger. That rise in prices should be no ground of enhancement is a proposition which your petitioners deem to be justified not only by considerations of justice and economy, but by the Permanent Settlement and the usages and traditions which have prevailed in Bengal. In Volume II of the work entitled, "The Zemindary Settlement of Bengal," Appendix XX, the subject of enhancement is discussed at great length, and in page 143 the following observations are made: "Lord Cornwallis distinctly foresaw a rise of prices, yet he fixed the zemindar's assessment for ever; and in enumerating the sources from which the zemindars might increase their rents, he mentioned the substitution of more valuable for cheaper kinds of produce, but omitted mention of increased money-rents from a rise of prices of the old kinds of produce.....The Regulations of 1793 did guard against enhancement by explicitly stating that the amount of customary money-rent to be

entered in the pottahs then to be immediately granted by the zemindar, would be the sole amount recoverable thereafter by the zemindar, who was expressly prohibited from increasing it by fresh abwabs, i.e., by recourse to the only old ways in which rent in excess of the original *assul* used to be obtained on account of a rise of prices." In page 152 of the same volume it is pointed out that Lord Cornwallis omitted to legalise enhancement of the raiyat's rents on occasion of a rise of prices; and in page 156 where the conclusions of the Chapter are summed up, it is observed that in 1793 by a distinct engagement the faith of the Government was as solemnly pledged to the raiyat as to the zemindar, and that a "breach of that engagement is chargeable on the Legislature that passed Act X of 1859 which—nearly seventy years after the decennial settlement, and for the first time under law—subjected the raiyat's rent to enhancement from a rise of prices." In page 147 of Volume I of the same work it is observed: "Thus an increase of the raiyat's rent from a general rise of prices of the old kinds of produce was not inadvertent. The exclusion of this from the possible sources of increased revenue was not inadvertent—it was intentional; for the noble Lord had in a previous paragraph of his minute protected the zemindar from any increase of the rent payable by him to Government on account of any such rise in prices."

6. That your petitioners find to their great surprise and regret that the Bill under consideration recognises no principle for determining the maximum limit of enhancement. Section 75 (d) of the original Bill provided that "the enhanced rent shall not in any case exceed one-fifth of the estimated average value of the gross produce of the land in staple crops, calculated at the price at which raiyats sell at harvest time." This clause, your petitioners find, has been omitted from the present Bill. In paragraph 11 of the letter of the Government of India addressed to the Government of Bengal, it is observed: "The Government of India is also inclined to agree with the Select Committee that failing this test the most feasible check on rack-renting is to limit the percentage of increase obtainable at any one time on existing rents when rent is enhanced either by private agreement or by suit." Your petitioners cannot help remarking that the principle here adopted by the Government of India is in reality no principle at all, and in the second place it provides no means for determining the maximum limit of enhancement that may ever be reached. There is a distinction between the maximum increase obtainable "at any one time" and the maximum rent which may ever be claimed from the raiyat. Furthermore, the method adopted by the Government of India for checking rack-renting seems to assume that no raiyat is already holding under a rack-rent, that some increase of rent may be asked for, and that the only problem for consideration is to limit the percentage of increase obtainable at any one time. Sudden enhancement on a large scale would unquestionably be a great grievance to the raiyats. But an indefinite increase of rent, though slowly and gradually achieved through a long series of years, would be none the less a grievance. In all cases of enhancement the relevant inquiry is not if a slight increase will be bearable, but if any increase is justifiable having regard to the quantity of the produce. To limit the percentage of increase obtainable at any one time is a bar only to sudden enhancement and not to indefinite enhancement. To regulate enhancements by percentages of increase is to follow no principle but to act arbitrarily. The rent already paid is assumed to be below the rack-rent, and an attempt is made to reconcile the raiyat to an enhancement by making the percentage of increase too small to be viewed with alarm. To regulate the maximum limit of enhancement by reference to the rent already paid, in other words, to make the existing rent a sort of unit or standard of measurement, is to follow no principle at all, for the existing rent has been determined on no principle. The mere observance of arithmetical uniformity does not amount to the adoption of a principle. Percentages of increase, however regular, consistent and uniform, furnish no rational method of enhancement, for the original basis of calculation, the rent already paid, is itself determined by no principle. Besides, as your petitioners have already observed, the system of percentages of increase determines no real maximum limit of the rent payable by a raiyat. Your petitioners submit that under no circumstances the rent payable by a raiyat should exceed a certain proportion of the gross produce. The maximum limit of rent in all cases, whether the enhancement be by suit or by private contract, ought to be a certain determinate fraction of the gross produce. Your petitioners, while they are thankful for the provisions against sudden enhancement beyond small percentages on existing rent, are nevertheless anxious that the Legislature should prescribe a definite maximum limit of enhancement by reference to the gross produce. As a matter of fact, the maximum rent that has ever been claimed from the Bengal raiyat or from cultivators in other countries has been far less than one-fifth of the gross produce. Your petitioners have referred to that proportion only because it was mentioned in the original Bill; but your petitioners would most respectfully submit that in their opinion the fairest maximum of rent would be one-sixth of the gross produce. Your petitioners feel bound to admit that the determination of any particular proportion like one-sixth, one-eighth, or one-tenth would be more or less arbitrary; but they are anxious that some maximum limit should be prescribed having relation to the quantity of the gross produce. Such a limit has been recognised not only in India but in various other countries. In "the Zemindary Settlement of Bengal," Volume I, pp. 92—94, authorities are cited to show that in ancient times the land-tax levied in Egypt was one-fifth of the gross produce, in Greece one-tenth, among the Romans one-tenth, in Persia one-tenth, in China one-tenth, among the Hindus one-sixth of the gross produce. In Cochin-China and Siam the amount of the land-tax is estimated at 4 per cent. of the gross produce. In the Burma Empire the Government impost on cultivated land is only a tenth part of the produce. It thus appears that to fix a certain

proportion of the gross produce as the maximum limit of rent is by no means an impracticable idea. The difficulties felt by the Government in adopting such a limit are, first, that the average produce of different lands cannot be ascertained, and second, that the rent payable for lands growing other than staple food-crops cannot be ascertained. Your petitioners submit that the difficulty in ascertaining the average gross produce of particular lands is by no means insuperable. They submit for Your Excellency's consideration a form which is set out in the margin and marked A which should be filled in every year by the zemindar and also by an officer of Government and sent to the Collector for the purpose of determining the rent payable by the raiyat. If the zemindar claims an enhancement, or a raiyat claims an abatement, he must apply to the Collector, and the Collector after looking at these annual returns shall give a certificate stating his opinion. If the Collector allows an enhancement, the ryot may bring a suit in a Civil Court disputing the zemindar's right to enhance; and if the Collector allows an abatement, the zemindar may bring a suit in a Civil Court disputing the raiyat's right to get an abatement. But where the Collector declines to allow enhancement, it shall not be open to the zemindar to bring a suit in a Civil Court to obtain enhancement; and where the Collector declines to allow abatement, it shall not be open to the raiyat to bring a suit in a Civil Court to obtain abatement. The Collector's certificate ought to be declared to be evidence admissible in a Civil Court. In other words, enhancement and abatement should only be obtained by application to the Collector; the Collector should consult the annual returns, and his certificates shall be final and conclusive evidence as against the party applying; but the other party may have it set aside in the Civil Court. Your petitioners raise no objection to the provisions of the Bill under consideration regarding the intervals of time at which enhancement or abatement can be claimed. With regard to the second difficulty noticed by the Government of India your petitioners venture to state as the result of their experience that crops, like sugarcane, mulberry, potato, &c., ought to be assessed at double the rent payable on staple food-crops, and that this would be a fair and equitable assessment. Sugarcane and such other crops grow on high land alone, and the expenses of their cultivation are very great.

7. That your petitioners submit that though there is and ought to be distinction in the status of the occupancy and the non-occupancy raiyat, there ought to be no distinction as regards the rates of rents payable by each, the grounds of enhancement and the limit of enhancement. Occupancy right is a species of property and has special incidents annexed to it. Those incidents do not, of course, appertain to the holding of the non-occupancy raiyat. But your petitioners are aware of no principle which justifies a distinction in the rates of rent payable by the two classes of raiyats. Zemindars have always taken steps and, if the Bill under consideration be passed into law, will take yet more active steps to prevent the acquisition of occupancy rights; and as the advantages incident to those rights will be out of the reach of the vast majority of the Bengal raiyats, your petitioners submit that there will be no appreciable improvement in the condition of the Bengal peasantry by conferring special privileges on the occupancy raiyats alone. Your petitioners, therefore, heartily concur in the recommendation made by the Government of Bengal that the rent of the occupancy or non-occupancy raiyat shall not exceed one-fifth of the value of the gross produce calculated in staple food grains, and your petitioners are anxious that the same equality should exist as regards rates of rent and grounds of enhancement.

8. That your petitioners have noticed with very great regret the recommendation of the Government of Bengal to modify the presumption as to fixity of rent by requiring proof of such fixity in all future cases from 20 years before passing the Bill. Your petitioners view this recommendation with great surprise when they read the finding of the Lieutenant-Governor on the evidence before him. "On the evidence before him, therefore, Mr. Rivers Thompson feels that he might, with the weight of authority, argument, and fact in his favour, ask for the retention of the presumption contained in the existing law as regards occupancy rights as well as tenures. But on a full review of the Bill as a whole he abstains from taking up that position. Recognising the sincerity of the zemindar's objections to the presumption, and the instance with which they have urged their views, he is willing to make a concession to their wishes, provided that the interests of the raiyats shall not, in the long run, suffer from the change in what is to them a most valuable provision." Your petitioners need hardly apologise for stating their view that the opinion of the Legislature ought to be based upon the evidence before it and upon no other material. The sincerity of an objection and the vigour with which it is pressed ought not to weigh with the Legislature as against authority, argument, and fact. All objections must, in the absence of any evidence to the contrary, be presumed to be sincere; and it would be a dangerous doctrine to lay down that no objection will be listened to unless it is pressed with vigour. The raiyats object to the modification of the presumption under the existing law, and the objection is thoroughly sincere. If it is not pressed with extraordinary vehemence, the moderation of tone is due not to lack of interest in the subject but to a feeling of respect for the Legislature. The 20 years' presumption has a history of its own, a reference to which alone can throw light on its real nature and significance. The Regulations of 1793 did not contemplate enhancement of rent; the zemindar could not claim more than the established pergunna rate of rent. When enhancement was first legalised by Act X of 1859, the twenty years' presumption was introduced as a sort of compensation to the raiyats for the liability to enhancement newly imposed on them. They

were declared liable to enhancement, and their only protection lay in the presumption which declared that tenants holding lands at a fixed rate for twenty years previously to suit would be presumed to have held the lands at the same rate from the permanent settlement. To modify the presumption is to lessen the protection; and your petitioners submit that the raiyats have done nothing to deserve that penalty.

9. That your petitioners beg leave to submit that enhancement ought not to be regarded as a matter of course, but that it is in reality an anomalous and unjustifiable proceeding. Enhancement is not to be allowed, if it is to be allowed at all, except on grounds of the most obvious considerations of justice. Historically speaking, all enhancements are illegal; and Act X of 1859 in so far as it allowed enhancements was *ultra vires*. Your petitioners do not ask for the removal from the Bill of all provisions relating to enhancement, only because Act X of 1859 has familiarized them with a proceeding which is essentially illegal. Your petitioners beg to invite your Excellency's attention to the following authorities with a view to show that enhancement of rent is, strictly speaking, an innovation introduced in 1859, and that all provisions relating to it must be as far as possible favourable to the raiyat. The Bengal Government, on the 16th August 1769, desired Collectors to impress upon the raiyats that "our object is not increase of rents, or the accumulation of demands, but solely by fixing such as are legal, explaining and abolishing such as are fraudulent and unauthorised, not only to redress the raiyat's present grievances, but to secure him from all further invasions of his property." Sir Philip Francis, in a minute written in 1776, "considered that the rate of assessment per beegah should be fixed for ever upon land, no matter who might be the occupant." Warren Hastings wrote in the same strain: "Many other points of inquiry will also be useful to secure to the raiyats the permanent and undisputed possession of their lands, and to guard them against arbitrary exactions." On the 12th April 1786, the Court of Directors wrote: "It is entirely our wish that the natives" (rai-yats or subjects) "may be encouraged to pursue the occupations of trade and agriculture by the secure enjoyment of the profits of their industry; and that the zemindars and raiyats may not be harassed by increasing debts, either public or private, occasioned by the increased demands of the Government." Sir John Shore, in the same spirit, observed: "And at present we must give every possible security to the raiyat as well as, or not merely, to the zemindar. This is so essential a point that it ought not to be conceded to any plan." The Court of Directors, on the 19th September 1792, approving of these views recognised it as an object of the permanent settlement that it should "secure to the great body of the raiyats the same equity and certainty as to the amount of their rents and the same undisturbed enjoyment of the fruits of their industry which we mean to give to the zemindars themselves." Twenty-seven years later, the Court, on the 15th January 1819, deliberately re-affirmed: "We fully subscribe to the truth of Mr. Sisson's declaration that the faith of the state is to the full as solemnly pledged to uphold the cultivator of the soil in the unmolested enjoyment of his long-established rights as it is to maintain the zemindar in the possession of his estate, or to abstain from increasing the public revenue permanently assessed upon him." The Regulations of 1793 regarded the old-established pergunnah rates as the maximum rates of rent and prohibited the levy of fresh *abwabs* which would have been tantamount to an enhancement of rent. While every other detail affecting the relations of zemindar and raiyat was carefully elaborated in the Regulations of 1793, they contain no provision for an increase of that rent which ancient custom had determined as the established pergunnah rate of rent. The intention, that by the arrangement of 1793, the raiyat's rent should be as permanently settled as the zemindar's at the amount obtaining in 1793 was so well known that it was carried out in the similar settlements in Benares and in the zemindari tracts in the Madras Presidency; and Mr. H. Colebrooke, on the same understanding, urged in 1812 that even then "measures should be adopted, late as it now is, to reduce to writing a clear declaration and distinct record of the usages and rates according to which the raiyats of each pergunnah or district will be entitled to demand the renewal of their pottahs, upon any occasion of a general or partial cancelling of leases." In the same conviction the Bengal Government, on the 1st of August 1822, proposed to settle the rents payable by raiyats to zemindars in the permanently settled Lower Provinces. The pergunnah rate continued, in law, standard maximum rate from 1793 to 1859; as such it was recognised in the Sale Laws, and in those relating to distraint and the collection of the revenue, as for instance, Regulation XLIV of 1793, XX of 1795, VII of 1799, VIII of 1819 and XI of 1822.

Your petitioners, therefore, pray as follows:—

- (1) That no alteration may be made in the present law relating to the presumption as to fixity of rent where the tenant has held for twenty years consecutively at the same rate.
- (2) That enhancement of rent may not be allowed on the ground of rise in prices.
- (3) That enhancement of rent may not be allowed on the ground of a prevailing rate.
- (4) That the rent of the occupancy or non-occupancy raiyat may never exceed one-sixth of the value of the gross produce calculated in staple food-grains, whether the enhancement be by suit or private agreement.
- (5) That no distinction may be recognised between occupancy and non-occupancy raiyats as regards the rates of rent payable by them and the grounds on which enhancement may be claimed.

And your petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray.

Abstract shewing the actual state of Tenancy to be filed annually before the Collector by every person holding interest above that of the occupancy or mocrary or other class of raiyats.

[illegible]

N. B.—Columns 1—9 to be filled in by the landlord, and columns 10, 11, & 12 to be filled in by the Cammager or other officers of Government.

Note by the Hon'ble T. M. GIBBON.

Transferability of Occupancy-holdings.

I have hitherto been under the impression that the Government, in making the provisions of the Takkávi Act applicable to this province, had declared for the principle of transferability, and that the principle was no longer at issue.

The decision came to by His Honour to leave the law regarding the transfer of occupancy-rights in Bihâr in its present unsatisfactory state, by omitting transferability from among the incidents attached to an occupancy-holding, or as His Honour has put it, "leave transferability of occupancy-rights in Bihâr to custom," to have one law for the raiyats in Bengal and another for the raiyats in Bihâr, to throw over at the 23rd hour of the day a provision of the Bill which mainly recommended it to the outside public,—a provision of the Bill which, if abandoned, will make half the Bill unnecessary,—has, I am free to confess, created in my mind a feeling of anxiety and intense disappointment ; and I would fain believe His Honour has failed to realize the full effects of his decisions on the well-being of the province, the enormous restrictions it places on all fair trades or the greater disadvantage it places the raiyat in his race for life. I would fain hope His Honour may reconsider his decision. Opinions so forcibly and lucidly stated, expressed in language that none among us can hope to equal, must, I am sure, at all times carry great weight with them ; when franked with His Honour's seal their evidence is almost conclusive. To try to refute His Honour's arguments, or to induce your Council to pause before accepting them as final, I feel to be almost hopeless ; but hopeless as the task may be, an effort must be made, that all whose interests are locked up in the passing of the measure may feel that an effort (however poor a one) has been made to advocate their cause, that all may be assured and feel that the measure has been abandoned only from the essential weakness of our cause. With this object in view I would crave your assistance—above all, your patience. I would preface the remarks I am about to make by saying that, to my mind, there has always been a wide distinction between the transfer of a holding and a transfer of the rights attached to that holding. A raiyat may* transfer his holding to another beyond

recall, but he cannot transfer his "rights" in that holding to another, as the law distinctly declares that a person can only acquire a right in land from long possession; and it is to rectify this that the provisions which relate to transfer in the Bill are required—required to legalize, direct and control it, and, where the right may be exercised to the injury of others, restrict it.

Six years ago, when the measure was first mooted, some of us, who are now strongly impressed with the necessity of controlling the system, were then among the opponents of the measure: many of us, who were then content to leave transferability to take root gradually and consolidate itself, are now strongly convinced of the necessity of legalizing and directing it: the events of the last few years have taught us differently. The day for leaving it to be governed by custom has passed; our own acts have made it impossible. For six years the measure has been discussed and re-discussed until every raiyat and trader believes that it has become part of the law of the country; and small blame to them for doing so.

Means for restricting it, measures for controlling it, have all been discussed, but in all these years the Government has shown no sign that the principle of the measure was at stake. The child of the Bengal Government and of the service, the public adopted it; the Government will now be doing the public a positive wrong to disown it.

The Government by their acts have stimulated transfer, and with transfer, the mortgaging of occupancy-holdings to an extent that few could have foreseen a few years ago, and which few who do not come into direct and constant contact with the raiyat will realize to an extent that the papers submitted by the Government of Bengal fail to show.

I would again urge you to control the movement before you are too late.

To turn round at the last moment and tell the people that our Government has changed its mind, that the money they have advanced on the security of the land is so much money wasted, will, to say the least of it, be a cruel act, and may be a hazardous one.

Without questioning the correctness of the figures submitted by His Honour's Government, I may be permitted to say that they in no way represent the full significance of the movement, or the hold it has taken on the minds of the people.

Free transfer, and transfer under decrees of Court, must at all times be few in comparison with mortgages or transactions of a temporary nature, and it is only by enquiring the number of mortgages effected within the last six years—registered mortgages and mortgages the registration of which is optional, that one can realize the result of this long discussion. The papers submitted by His Honour's Government make no reference to mortgages.

In these papers my own district appears in reference to numbers and value of transactions almost at the bottom of the list, yet it shows that five times the number of transfers were effected in 1863-64 than were effected in 1881-82.

For me, a non-official, to attempt to give a precise list of all the mortgages that have been effected in this district within the last six years would be impossible; it would entail a house-to-house enquiry and enormous labour, but for my own satisfaction I made the enquiry on a portion of the estates under my charge. The estate consists of nearly 1,700 villages; I enquired in the following, and the result is as follows:—

Villages.	Transactions.	Area of holdings in Bihâr.	
		Local bighás.	Standard.
202	1,792	7,392	29,508.
Rent payable.	Bighas mortgaged.	Money raised.	
	Local. Standard.		
Rs. 19,071	2,106 8,424	Rs. 1,22,734.	

or Rs. 61 per local bighá, Rs. 15-4 per standard.

When it is remembered these transactions were effected in Chumparun—a district in which transfers were, a short time ago, almost unknown, a district in which land is easily procurable, that the area covered is only a small portion of an estate—I would urge you to consider how necessary it is to direct and control the movement, and of what importance the measure proposed in the Bill must be to us and to more forward districts. I would point out that nearly all these transactions refer to portions only—jotes, not entire holdings. Careless and improvident as the raiyat is, such as he is your laws have made him: believing in the first instance that his lands could not be seized, can you blame him for not making provision for the future?

I would beg of you to try to realize the position of a man who may not sell the property to clear himself of debt, and yet whose property may be sold under a decree of Court for one quarter of its value, who may in fact be deprived of his property and yet find his debts unpaid. That the picture here drawn is not the fruit of my imagination I would beg to submit the following instances. Cases such as these are all over Bihâr of frequent occurrence.

No.	Principal.	Total decree with interest and costs.	ARRA SOLD.		Amount realized.	Balance due.
			Local bighās.	Standard.		
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	B. C. C.		Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
1	182 9 0	237 9 0	5 17 0	22	123 0 0	124 0 0
2	82 0 0	113 7 9	11 4 18	44	45 0 0	68 0 0
3	55 0 0	111 10 3	2 4 0	8	37 0 0	64 0 0
4	49 6 0	68 10 9	2 11 0	10	28 0 0	47 0 0
5	242 0 0	343 15 9	11 16 14	46	98 0 0	245 0 0
6	692 11 0	822 10 0	3 10 0	14	102 0 0	720 0 0
7	110 0 0	126 0 0	3 3 0	12	45 8 0	81 8 0
8	204 6 0	302 2 9	7 11 18	30	159 0 0	143 0 0
9	606 4 0	862 15 0	13 19 12	56	67 12 0	805 0 0
10	424 0 0	556 4 6	5 0 0	20	55 0 0	501 0 0
11	112 0 0	194 7 9	1 8 0	6	43 0 0	151 0 0
12	.....	45 2 8	1 19 0	8	15 8 0	30 0 0
13	.....	37 0 0	1 9 5	6	28 8 0	8 8 0
14	.....	18 0 0	0 12 1	2	5 0 0	13 0 0
15	.....	293 13 6	12 13 0	50	126 0 0	173 0 0
16	.....	176 12 0	9 17 12	40	98 0 0	78 0 0
17	.....	102 14 6	3 6 10	13	71 0 0	31 0 0
18	.....	52 0 0	1 19 5	8	18 0 0	34 0 0
19	.....	32 0 0	1 0 0	4	6 4 0	23 12 0
20	.....	46 15 0	0 16 5	3	15 0 0	31 0 0

In making out the above account I have taken the local bighā as four standard bighās and dropped annas and pie.

I would here maintain that were transferability legal, either the creditors would have been satisfied with their security, or the debtors could have cleared themselves of debt by disposing of their property at its proper value.

That the measure is now essential to the welfare of the province many have urged more forcibly than I am able to do. It has, I think, been admitted on all hands, as also by His Honour's Government, that legalizing transferability of occupancy "rights" will enable the raiyats to raise money on easier terms than they could otherwise do.

To some this seems a small matter and hardly worth the stir that has been made over it, but to all who have had any experience of the subject, it makes all the difference between life and death, between degrading poverty and affluence.

With power to raise money on the security of his land, he may in his time of need raise a larger sum than he could otherwise do—possibly to the extent of five years' purchase of his holding—at a lower rate of interest and, what is of even greater importance, for a longer period.

Obliged to raise it on his farm implements or on the probable outturn of his crops, he can only raise it for short periods, necessitating his disposing of them in the worst market, and owing to the insecurity of the investment he can only raise it at exorbitant rates of interest.

In a season of scarcity where his crops have failed he has nothing but his bond to offer. The trader or money-lender, when investing his money, will look for interest in proportion to the risk he runs, and not even an Act of Parliament will induce a trader to lend his money against his inclination.

Unless the raiyat is placed in a position to offer some tangible security for the money he borrows, he must continue to pay the exorbitant interest he is at present accustomed to pay to the end of the chapter.

Traders and money-lenders at present demand and receive exorbitant rates of interest from the raiyats. They not only charge from 25 per cent. to 30 per cent. interest on the money advanced, but the raiyat has to agree to repay the debt in grain and to deliver the grain some years cheaper than it is selling in the market.

The experience of all countries goes to prove that the cultivators of the soil are borrowers, the very nature of their employment to a certain extent necessitating their being such. That they should be obliged to borrow at the above exorbitant rates of interest is the result of our laws.

That they should continue to do so, and ever hope to be independent is an impossibility. That they should do so and still live, they may thank a bounteous Providence and not our laws. A law that gives the landlord the first lien on the crop, and will not permit of the land being given as security, must act as a deadweight on the tenant-farmer.

Many have argued that the raiyat is such a improvident creature that you should enact laws to save him from himself. With these I cannot agree; our laws are forcing him into unnecessary debt; in the hope of preserving him, they are driving him on to ruin.

If it is your wish that he should ever become self-reliant, let him feel that he is looked upon as a reasonable creature—a man responsible to himself for his own acts.

If it is your intention to re-enact for his protection the laws in force a century ago, you must be prepared to re-enact the old usury laws, and few, I think, will say that this is to be desired. It may be said all my experience, all my information, only refers to the North Gangetic portion of the province. This I deny, but to these I would reply that if I show that the measure is a necessity to the most backward portion of the province I prove that it is a necessity to all.

Many have argued that to legalize transferability of occupancy-rights would be to do the landlords a grievous wrong.

The landlords, through their representatives, have objected to the measure on the grounds—

First—That it is injurious to the raiyat.

Secondly—That it will be injurious to the zamindár as it will take away a valuable right from him.

Thirdly—It will allow hostile persons to intrude into his estate.

Fourthly—That it was not permitted under the terms of the permanent settlement or under Act X of 1859.

Fifthly—That there is nothing in the Bill that will prevent greedy speculators from trafficking in land.

Whether it will be injurious or not to the raiyat I have in the above attempted to show; that it can under proper safeguards by any possibility be injurious to the landlord or take away from him a valuable right I cannot realize, and in no instance that I remember have the zamindárs directly or clearly stated what that valuable right consists of which they are being deprived of. The only "right" they might have claimed—a right that (if I may use the expression) they have hinted at, never openly and directly claimed—is the right to participate in the price of the transfer.

Whether, owing to the *laches* of our Government, they may be considered to have acquired a prescriptive right to do so or not, I must leave others to decide; for my part I would rather see their right declared and legalized than let matters drift on in their present unsatisfactory way.

Otherwise their rights in the land are preserved to them under the Bill. Their rents are assured to them, as they are the first charge on the land and on the crops.

Their rights to enhance and distrain, &c., are left intact, as the transferee acquires no new rights with the land.

That it may permit hostile persons to acquire a footing on their estates I admit to be a drawback, but this has been to some extent remedied in the Bill.

That it was directly permitted at the time of the permanent settlement is true; that it was forbidden there is no evidence. Under the Regulations that the zamindárs appeal to, a raiyat could not be dispossessed of his lands. If the raiyat did not pay his rents, his crops were distrained. He suffered in person—he could not be deprived of his lands. Under the old Regulations, if a jotedár failed to pay his rents and his landlord seized his lands, when the rents were paid, the zamindár had to account for his stewardship; he could not deprive him of the land to give to others. If the zamindárs, when objecting to the raiyats being accorded the right to transfer, under the plea that they had not that right at the time of the permanent settlement, offered to forego their right to evict, or their present right to sell up the holdings for the non-payment of rents—rights they did not possess at the time of the permanent settlement—there might be some show of justice in their demand; at the present there is none.

In reference to the objection that the land will fall into the hands of speculators and land-jobbers, I think I may say that there is more speculation of this kind going on at present—I may almost say gambling in land—than there can ever be after the Bill becomes law and transferability is legalized and defined.

I am convinced that, if the fear of land-jobbers and speculators is the *only* obstacle to legalizing the measure, it may be easily remedied. To remedy this there are many courses open to the Government.

I believe the Secretary to the Planters Association has already forwarded the outcome of our discussions, so I need not take up your time by referring to them here.

Throughout the discussion of this measure the interests of the landlords and tenants have alone been considered; the interests of traders have been ignored.

Much as the money-lenders and traders have been reviled, black as they have been painted, so black that charcoal will leave a white mark on them, they perform a useful part in the economy of the country. Being there, their interests should be considered, their existence not ignored.

Much as many of us may wish it otherwise, both landlord and tenant must for many years to come solicit the assistance of the money-lender and trader—the one for the due recovery of his rents, the other often for his means of subsistence; and yet the Bill is never discussed in a manner to show that the money-lender, grain-dealer, merchant or trader had any concern with its provisions. To make trade secure, the interests of traders must be considered, and their transactions must receive due protection under the law. Provision must be made to enable the trader to recover debts due to him, to recover damages for breach of contract. With the crops hypothecated to the landlord's rents, how, and from whence, is the trader to recover his dues if not from the land?

It may be said that matters have fared well hitherto without this alteration having been made in the law; but in this I beg to differ; but whether they fared well or indifferently, they can no longer proceed in the same groove. The landlords, the raiyats, the traders, and the Courts have one and all had their eyes opened by the discussion to the state of the law; matters can never again settle down into their old channels.

His Honour's Government would leave it to custom. Custom is a child of very slow growth. Custom must exist for many years before the Courts will acknowledge its existence: who is to pay for its education?

Hundreds may be ruined before the Courts will acknowledge it. Leaving it to custom, you cannot forbid the sub-division of holdings, the transfer of portions—the most mischievous form of transfer and which is now rife everywhere.

To us planters the measure is a necessity; without it we cannot hope to carry on any business with the cultivators. If we cannot recover damages for breach of contract, we cannot carry on business without first acquiring the position of their landlords. I would also beg of you to consider our position, to remember that to bequeath is to transfer. The native inherits; the planter bequeaths to his heirs.

Stress has been laid by his Honour on the fact of the Bihár Committee, and again the Bihár Conference, having vetoed transferability. I would beg to remind you that in the first day of its meeting the Committee agreed that transferability was a necessity to the raiyat. It was only on again discussing the subject the Committee were of opinion that it might give rise to litigation under the Hindu law. And I would beg to point out that transferability was adopted in spite of the Committee's objection to it, and that the excessive litigation that it might give rise to among shareholders is not among the reasons given by His Honour for abandoning it.

By many the rights others claim in property under the Hindu law are considered valid and legitimate restrictions on transferability.

In reference to the decision come to by the Bihár Conference, the accounts are too meagre to enable me to weigh the reasons which induced them to come to it.

It was, I believe, carried by a casting vote only. His Honour has decided to legalize transferability in Bengal and leave it to custom in Bihár, and founds his decision on the information supplied from the registration office. To me they read another lesson. The papers show the "number of years' purchase reckoned on the rents payable," instead of, as it should be, on the raiyats' profits. It would have been fairer and better to have taken the price of a standard bighá in each district as the standard of value. Taking the figures, or given 1883-84, I find under sales of occupancy-holdings at fixed rates by decree of Court, land in—

	Rs. A.	Rs. A.
Burdwan selling at		2 12 per bighá.
24-Parganas "		3 12 "
Rajshahi "	3 0 to	4 0 "
Dacca "		4 0 "
Whereas in the Patna Division it averages		5 4 "
I find under sales of other occupancy-holdings—		
Burdwan, land brought		6 8 per bighá.
24-Parganas "	2 8 to	3 12 "
Rajshahi "		3 0 "
Mymensingh "		1 12 "
Dacca "		7 0 "
In the Patna Division		4 8 "
In Bhagulpur only		1 0 "
Under sale by registered deed—		
Burdwan, land brought		25 12 per bighá.
Presidency Division "		6 8 "
Rajshahi "		12 8 "
Dacca "		13 0 "
Patna "		22 4 "
Bhagulpur "		8 8 "
Under sale of ordinary occupancy-holding, I find—		
Burdwan, land @		14 0 per bighá.
Presidency Division @		6 8 "
Rajshahi @		11 4 "
Patna @		18 8 "

That is to say, in nearly all instances land has brought a better price in Patna than it has done in Bengal.

If the number of transfers in a district is a sign of the improvident habits of its raiyats, Bengal certainly has the advantage of us.

I would point out that, whereas the parties believing they are acting within the law are able to raise 15 per bighá on mortgage only in Champaran, when sold by decree of Courts, they bring sums varying from Re. 1 per bighá in Bhagulpur to Rs. 7 in Dacca.

I have now said all I wish to say, I have taxed your patience to its utmost; I would now only urge you that, be the result of your deliberations to us what they may, try and make a man of the raiyat, and all the rest will follow.

Legalize the transferability of entire holdings, but place every restriction possible on the transfer of portions of them.

Note by the Hon'ble T. M. GIBBON.

CHAPTER I.

1. Believing that the wish to stand well with one's superiors, the hope of future promotion and the natural desire to enhance the value of all estates under one's charge is as deeply implanted in the breast of all officials as it is in that of any other class of men, I cannot, I am sorry to say, endorse the moral adduced in paragraph 5 of the Bengal Government report, viz., that Government officials have nothing to gain by large enhancements. Believing that the

good intentions of our Government cannot in any way redeem its bad laws, I have read with great pleasure that it is His Honour's wish that all Government khas mahals should be made subject to the provisions of the Bill.

2. I would ask if the Government could not see its way to making the enhancement of the rent of raiyats living on estates subject to periodical settlement with zamindars, subject to the same rules as apply to the rents of raiyats living on permanently settled estates?

3. I would urge Government to accord to all raiyats, whether living on permanently-settled zamindars, Government khas mahals or periodically-settled estates, the same rights and the same privileges, even to the extent of their acquiring a right to hold at fixed rates under the 20 years' presumption if the presumption is to be retained in the Bill.

4. Many of us fail to understand why 40 years' exemption from enhancement should be a valid reason for enhancing the rents of raiyats living on estates under Government control, while 20 years' freedom from enhancement creates a presumptive right to hold at fixed or permanent rates in favour of raiyats who pay their rents to zamindars.

CHAPTER II (*Paragraph 14, Bengal Government Report*).

5. *Presumption of tenure-holder from area of holding.*—Unless our Government is prepared to follow the advice of the Lord Chief Justice and lay down a hard-and-fast rule, which I from my experience believe to be impossible, I would earnestly beg of the Government to retain the presumption exactly as it is laid down in the Bill.

6. It is, I think, the very best solution of the problem that has as yet been proposed.

7. As far as I am able to understand the objections raised to the presumption being retained, most people assume that it is the raiyat's interest to prove that he is not an occupancy-raiyat but a tenure-holder, whereas the contrary is the case. Unless he can at once show that he is a permanent tenure-holder, he is better off as an occupancy-raiyat than he is as an ordinary tenure-holder.

8. A person holding land under a tenure-holder can acquire occupancy-rights in the land; a person holding land under an occupancy-raiyat cannot.

9. As between him and his tenant, a person who is in possession of more land than he can cultivate, and who elects to sublet his lands to others, and afterwards attempts to recover possession of them, pleading that he himself is an occupancy-raiyat, and therefore his tenant can have no occupancy-rights in the land, should, by reason of his subletting, have the onus of proving that he is an occupancy-raiyat and not a tenure-holder cast on him.

10. Again, as between him and his landlord, he may not be evicted from an occupancy-holding; he may from a terminable tenure.

11. It is to be presumed that all "rai-yats" acquire the land in the first instance for their own home cultivation.

12. If they do not or cannot cultivate themselves, but sublet to others, there can be no hardship to them in having to prove that they acquired the land in the first instance as a raiyat and not as a tenure-holder.

13. Exception has been taken to the limit of area.

14. My own experience goes to show that the limit of the holding as laid down in the Bill is as fair a one as it is possible to give.

15. The limit to be laid down should, I think, be equal to the area an ordinary well-to-do raiyat can cultivate with his own appliances,—over it rather than under it,—and I think one hundred standard bighas about as much as he can manage.

16. Although I cannot follow Mr. Reily's example and state the area cultivated by different raiyats living on the estates in my charge, as many of the raiyats have holdings in two and three villages, I can at least show from incontestable evidence that extremely few "holdings" exceed one hundred standard bighas in this district.

17. If the limit is lowered, thousands whose occupancy-rights are now beyond dispute will be liable to have their titles contested; and this, I presume, the Government do not desire.

CHAPTER III.

18. Section 11 of the Bill is not, I believe, directly referred to in the report of the Bengal Government; but, as I am doubtful on one or two points connected with it, I would beg to be allowed to call your attention to it.

19. Under section 26 of Act VIII of 1869, a zamindar is compelled to register all divisions of tenure among heirs and others, but he is not required to give effect to any division of "rents."

20. For this section there is, I believe, no direct substitute in the Bill, unless it may be considered that section 97 is intended to apply to tenures as well as to occupancy-holdings.

21. I doubt very much whether a Court of law would consider that the term "holding" applied to the large tenures (almost or quite estates) in North Bihâr.

22. If it is intended to give tenure-holders the right to divide their rents as well as their lands against the wishes and to the detriment of their landlord, some procedure should be laid down for the proper apportionment of rents.

Discussions of the 20 years' presumption.—When the Government of Bengal admits, which it practically does, that the presumption is an infringement of the Permanent Settlement, it admits all we have ever claimed for it.

24. Far from the agreement involving the absurdity that no rules of procedure are to be laid down with a view "to shorten litigation," it is not a matter of "procedure" that is involved but a matter of right. We deny that the raiyat ever had or was intended to have the right to hold at fixed rates without the consent of his landlord: we look upon it as a transfer of property from one class to another.

25. I am sorry to say I look upon every instance in which the Courts have, under the procedure decided in favor of a raiyat's right to hold at permanent fixed rates, as a wrong to the landlord.

26. If, as a matter of policy, the Government thought it necessary to accord the raiyat a right he never before possessed at the expense of the landlord, the landlord was clearly entitled to compensation.

27. The report of the Bengal Government nowhere alludes to the rule being made applicable under section 64 (3) to commuted rents.

28. As I said all I wished to say on the subject in my dissent to the Bill, I need not refer further to the subject here.

29. *Procedure for the registration of transfers.*—I would strongly deprecate the alterations recommended in the report being adopted. The chapter, as it stands, I consider extremely valuable, and I would be sorry to see it altered.

CHAPTER IV.

30. I must still adhere to all I said in this chapter in my memorandum of dissent, and I still think the distinction, I then advocated, should be made in this chapter. I am glad to see I am supported in this by the Bihâr Conference.

CHAPTER V.

31. Should the estate be limited as to extent or period of creation?

His Honour says that "having regard to the condition of the raiyat and the perfect freedom of the landlord to give or withhold the land, he is satisfied that abuse of the rule is not a practical danger to fear."

32. This may be correct with reference to land at "present" in the possession of the landlord, but will not apply to land already made over to raiyats by landlords who were at the time ignorant of your intention to lay down this hard-and-fast rule.

33. It is only the raiyats of large zamindars, such as Bardwan and Bettiah, that will be affected by the alteration asked for; and I think even the most exacting raiyat may be satisfied if the limit of a thanâ or tappâ is accepted.

34. His Honour's suggestion that the limits of the estate should be taken as they may exist at the time of the introduction of the Bill, instead of as it stands in the Bill, is, I think, a move in the wrong direction.

35. Whereas the one will only affect the raiyats of a few estates, and that not injuriously, a very large number of raiyats will be seriously affected by the other.

Section 25 (2) of the Bill.

36. I would beg to be allowed to call your attention to the purport of this section, and to ask if it might not be taken to mean that a person may revive a claim to land he has been dispossessed of under a decree of a competent Court subsequent to 1st March 1883 and prior to the introduction of the Bill.

37. Section 26 (2) was I believe accepted by the majority of your Committee under the belief that it was in accordance with the present law and practice of the Courts.

38. I would beg to call your attention to the minute of the Lord Chief Justice on the subject, who is evidently of a contrary opinion.

39. Should His Lordship's reading of the law be correct, the subject should, I think, be re-opened and re-considered.

Note by the Hon'ble T. M. GIBSON.

Limitation on Transfers of Occupancy-rights in Bengal.

HIS HONOUR the Lieutenant-Governor is of opinion that "if by any definition or legal provision the limitation of the occupancy-right to the actual cultivators could be secured, the free right of transfer would, by common consent, be unobjectionable."

To remedy this, His Honour proposes to allow the landlord a power of vetoing a sale of an occupancy holding to any but cultivating raiyats. The weak point in this scheme would be the difficulty of appointing the person who is to decide whether the purchaser is a cultivating raiyat or a mahajan. Cultivators are so often mahajans, and mahajans so often cultivators, I am afraid, we would require a very complicated procedure to prevent the power being abused.

If it is thought necessary to place restrictions on transfer in order to prevent the land falling into the hands of landjobbers and speculators, I would prefer seeing the transferee's rights in the land restricted to allowing the zamindar the power of making invidious distinctions. I would restrict the transferee's power to sub-let or again transfer to another for a certain time or term after purchase, and I would place the remedy in the hands of the zamindar, and thereby compel the transferee to cultivate the land purchased for a certain number of years, or abandon it.

I would beg to be allowed to reserve my opinion of His Honour's scheme until it is more fully worked out.

Checks on sub-letting.

The majority of planters will hear with regret that it is His Honour's wish that sections 57 and 62 should be abandoned; for myself I am very glad to hear it. I think it would, if retained, lead to complications hereafter necessitating special legislation to remedy. My brother planters are strongly of opinion that the term of seven years allowed for a sub-lease is not a sufficiently long period, and ask for a longer term. In reference to section 62, the majority of us approve of it as it stands, and, I think, would be sorry to see it abandoned. I do not. I would like to see the tenant and sub-tenant allowed to come to any agreement that they may think fair among themselves, provided such agreement is properly registered; but I would in no instance allow an occupancy-raiyat to recover more than fifty per cent. over and above his own rents from his sub-tenant when the arrangement is a verbal one or unregistered.

To meet the above the section should be altered, not entirely abandoned.

Section 63 contains a very valuable provision, almost the only protection given to a sub-tenant in the Bill, and should be retained.

On the ground of fluvial action.—I agree with all His Honour has said on this subject, and would be glad to see the right to enhance on account of fluvial action abandoned.

Enhancement under section 43 (a).—His Honour is of opinion that this is the most objectionable provision in the Bill, and wishes to see it struck out.

His Honour will no longer oppose initial rents being competitive, provided this section is cancelled.

As I understand them, His Honour's principal reasons for wishing to see this provision omitted from the Bill are as follows:—

First, that the rents of occupancy-raiyats will be unduly influenced by the rates the landlords will secure from new raiyats under the competitive system.

Second, that a "prevailing rate" no longer exists.

Third, that the prevailing rate deprives the occupancy-raiyat of protection.

Whatever difficulty there may be in ascertaining the prevailing rate, whatever abuses may have been allowed to creep in in the practical application of the rule, there can be no doubt that it is a provision of the law which the landlords have, for many years past, enjoyed the benefit of under several consecutive enactments, a provision of the law that they appreciate, and the deprivation of which they will resent as a bitter wrong. In resenting it as such, they will carry the sympathies of most people with them; the cancelling of this right will go far to justify their opinion of the Bill.

Although the Bill accords to every settled raiyat on an estate rights of occupancy in all land held by such settled raiyat in the estate on the 1st March, 1883, a raiyat, whether he be an occupancy or non-occupancy raiyat, can in the future only acquire occupancy-rights in any fresh lands he may acquire by lapse of time; therefore, as the section is drafted, the rents of occupancy-holdings will only be affected by any initial rents when the raiyats who acquire the fresh lands acquire occupancy-rights in those lands, viz., after the lapse of twelve years from the time of acquiring possession of each such holding.

Again, the quantity of land left under the control of, or subject to the influence of, the landlord and through which the rents of occupancy-raiyats may be affected, will be comparatively small.

Thanks to the provisions of the Bill, there will, after the passing of the Bill, be few raiyats in the province not entitled to claim occupancy-rights in the lands they at present hold. Abandoned holdings and land freshly brought under cultivation, will alone remain to the landlord for the dreaded purpose.